'PAL not to blame for flight delays.' PAGE 2
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Hafa Adai!

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WANTS $40M BUDGET FOR FY '17

PSS admits shortage of teachers

JON PEREZ
Acting education commissioner Yvonne R. Pangelinan is in a pensive mood after delivering her report to the CNMI State Board of Education in yesterday's special board meeting at the Office of Pupil Transportation conference room in Lower Base.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

CNMI State Public School System acting commissioner Yvonne R. Pangelinan said they are hoping that the Legislature would give them a bigger budget so they could address issues like a shortage of teachers for School Year 2016-2017.

» 'Only 14 pct of public schools are fully staffed'

PSS, in last Wednesday's Senate Fiscal Affairs committee budget hearing, is asking the Legislature that it be allocated close to $40 million after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres proposed a lower budget of $37.7 million.

"We hope the budget would be favorable to us so we could shift our resources to provide more support to our schools," said Pangelinan in her report in yesterday's CNMI State Board

See PSS on Page 4

House sends budget act to Senate

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives yesterday approved a bill to fund the operations of the government for the next fiscal year, sending the measure to the Senate with no additional amendments.

» Propst calls lawmaker's operations budget increase 'excessive'

After a debate over a proposed amendment by Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) to shift over some of the lawmakers' operations budget to the mayors of Rota, Tinian, and Saipan, the House voted with 17 yes to 2 no votes to send the budget to the upper house at about 4:20pm yesterday afternoon. Propst and Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) voted against.

The budget act, or House Bill 19-196, appropriates $142

See HOUSE on Page 4

Rota mayor says death of M/V *Luta* crew a freak accident

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 62-year-old crew of cargo vessel M/V *Luta* died after he reportedly fell into the water from the boat, which was anchored at the West Marina Commercial Port on Rota Tuesday night.

Rota Mayor Efrain Atalig, in a phone interview yesterday, said although police investigation is ongoing, he believes that there was no foul play and that it was a freak accident. He said he was in the area when it happened and witnessed how Fidel Mendiola and others retrieved the victim.

Mendiola is among the owners of M/V *Luta*, a 150-foot long 500-ton cargo ship.

"What happened to the victim was unfortunate," Atalig said.

Atalig said he immediately called police and an ambulance.

A witness also told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that he too believes that there was no foul play involved as there were several people at the port at that time and that he even saw Mendiola and the boat's captain jump into the water to save the victim.

The witness said he and Rota Mayor Atalig, along with several others, were eating in the warehouse at the port because they just finished unloading cargo from M/V *Luta*,

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INSIDE

LOCAL
Saipan's restaurant market continues to expand with the entry of Japan-based food chain Ajisen Ramen, which brings in the authentic and rich Kyushu Tonkotsu (pork) broth to the island.
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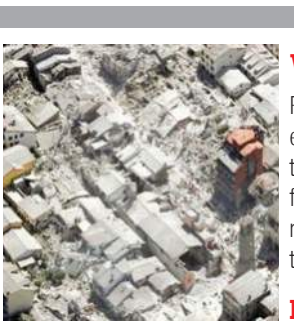
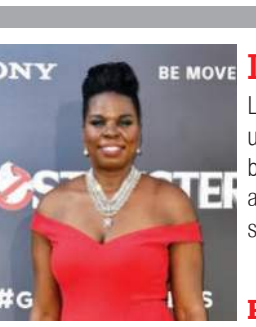


WORLD
Rescue crews using bulldozers and their bare hands raced to dig out survivors Thursday from a strong earthquake that reduced three central Italian towns to rubble.
PAGE 23



LIFE & STYLE
Leslie Jones, the black "Saturday Night Live" and "Ghostbusters" actress-comedian, is again the target of racist and sexist online attacks.
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Local

'PAL not to blame for flight delays'

Marianas Visitors Authority board director Jerry Tan said Philippine Airlines should not to be blamed on the issue of delayed flights. PAL Express' flights have always been delayed since the Philippine flag carrier resumed operations on Saipan last June.

Delays on PAL Express flights became a major concern for CNMI customers especially those who are traveling on medical referral. Tan said that PAL is working on it and is trying to find solutions to address the delays.

"The flights from China, Beijing and Shanghai, have always been delayed but we must take into consideration that their airports are among the busiest in the world," Tan addressed the members of the MVA board.

Tan said that PAL had always been in time when it comes to boarding their Manila to Saipan passengers, but have to wait for the connecting flights from China. "It is not because of PAL, the plane is ready to go. PAL even changed its schedule before the inaugural flight."

He then asked the public to be more patient as PAL has been studying ways to solve the delays.

CNMI residents, especially Filipino contract workers, welcomed PAL's decision of reviving its non-stop Saipan-Manila flights. Despite the flight delays, PAL customers still expressed their support since the direct route it offers especially for medical referral patients and vacation. ***(Jon Perez)***

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Teregeyo: DPL open to scrutiny

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Department of Public Lands Secretary Marianne Teregeyo said her agency is always open to any member of the community who has questions about certain land deals. The former Department of Lands and Natural Resources special sdvisor to the secretary made the statement after addressing House of Representatives members regarding House Bill 19-82.

HB 19-82 aims to abolish DPL and establish the Marianas Lands Corp. with a board of trustees having the power to manage and control public lands in the CNMI. Rep. Felicidad T. Ogumoro (R-Saipan) introduced the bill.

Teregeyo read DPL's position paper during the public comments in yesterday's session at the House chamber. She said that it would be unconstitutional if the bill passes and becomes law.

She added that she had already made an objection when she testified in a committee hearing last year. "The way the bill is set up, it is unconstitutional. A lot of the questions that the bill raised, like the advisory board, had already been addressed and are now in effect."

"We are open if someone has any questions about. Our books and doors are always open. Anyone who wants to question any land deal, we are open for scrutiny by the Legislature and to the public," said Teregeyo.

"We're very prudent and have been managing the department very efficiently. We are doing our best at the department. Best for you to come and check us, we're always happy and ready to assist," Teregeyo said.

She added that some of the issues in the bill like having an advisory board, having monthly meetings, and land compensation dealings have been addressed. She made the clarification after reports and a comment by Connie C. Togawa that the DPL had one questionable land deal.

Teregeyo said they gave the Office of the Public Auditor access to DPL documents when she became the head early this year. "OPA investigated one case and we don't know the result of the investigation. We gave them everything and just opened all the files."

From MPLA to DPL

Teregeyo said all the issues that were raised in the bill are irrelevant. "The main thing is it is unconstitutional. Before the department was under the board. The board had some questionable deals, that is coming from the committee report, that's why the board was dissolved."

DPL was a former division under DLNR and became a separate department in 2006 after then governor Benigno R. Fitial signed HB 15-57 that became PL 15-2, which also abolished the Marianas Public Lands Authority.

Teregeyo said she is asking the Legislature not to act on HB 19-82 and completely remove it from their order of business. "I'm against it and don't support the bill. We reject it strongly. All issues in that bill have been addressed."

"Keep in mind that the bill was drafted almost a year and a half ago, between that time and now, all have been addressed. One of the questions

See TEREGEYO on Page 4

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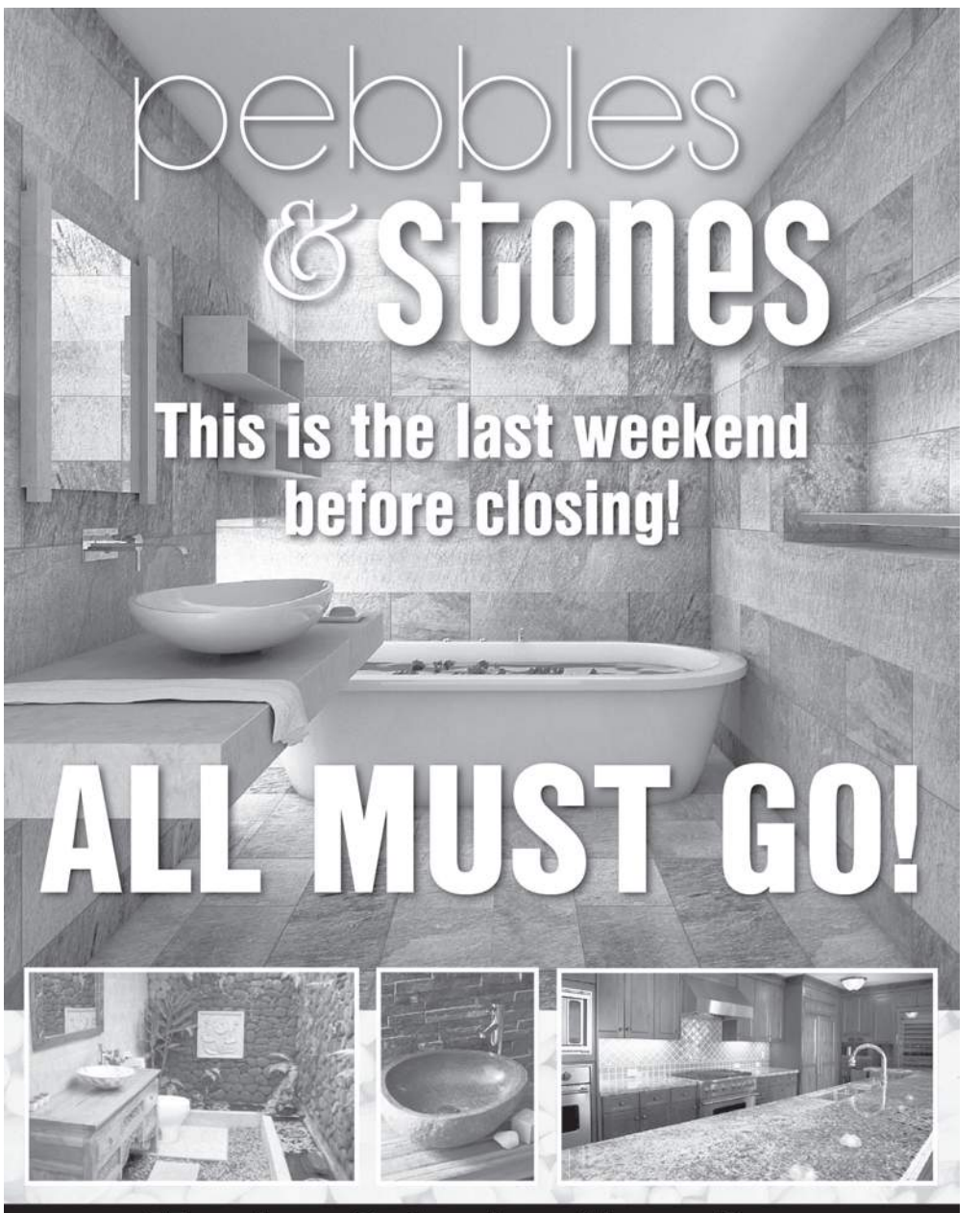
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CPA responds to airport infrastructure issues

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Ports Authority board director Barrie Toves said yesterday that the airport is making progress on priority areas in their infrastructure that have drawn scrutiny from the media recently.

These involve problems with the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport's air-conditioning, runway lights, and baggage handling system, among others.

"I hear the saying that a lot of things don't happen overnight, but that doesn't mean we are going to be complacent. I want to send a message to the community that we are working really hard, tirelessly, in addressing these issues," said Toves, who is also airport facilities committee chair, while presenting his committee's report during a board meeting yesterday.

» Fills vacant master electrician post

An issue highlighted has been their air-conditioning and Toves explained they have addressed issues of maintenance. However, a move to request proposals for replacement of these 20- to 30-year-old air-conditioning units was cancelled because the committee could not a reach consensus on "budgetary requirements."

He said the committee then issued an invitation to bid but felt the bid—which intended to replace six units—did not contain another two units in the airport's west wing that needed to be replaced immediately, so the committee canceled the bid.

He said they issued another 15-day notice for expedited procurement and expects management to re-advertise next week.

"I just wish that the counterpart in our tourism partner would take initiative to call the executive director or our main office and find out what is going on before going out in public in the media and exploiting statements that are unfounded, that we are lagging

Continued on Next Page

HOUSE

From Page 1

million from government resources to fund government departments and agencies.

Propst's proposed amendment shifted the House and Senate's operations budget increase from FY 2016 to FY 2017—an amount of $585,155—to the Saipan Mayor's Office at $423,736, the Rota mayor at $80,710, and Tinian mayor at $80,710.

Propst called their 27-percent increase an increase more than what was given to other offices and agencies, and said that in light of the needs of the CNMI, its agencies, people, and government's outstanding obligations, the increase was "excessive."

"We all need to do our part to be as fiscally conservative as possible, Mr. Speaker," Propst said. "This is substantial amount that could go into beautification efforts and could clean up the island. We wouldn't have to do as much from our office. We could actually let the mayor be able to operate and do more with this increased budget.

Broken down per the 29 members of the two houses, the 27-percent increase amounts to $21,178, Propst later said.

In arguing against the amendment, Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan), the chair of the Ways and Means Committee that produced the budget act, said his committee and the administration did not ignore allotting more funds to the respective municipalities.

He noted an increase in the amount of half a million each to Rota and Tinian mayors, and $550,000 to the Saipan and Northern Islands.

His committee, he said, funded in the amount of $400,000 additional money to Rota to finally retire the long standing debt to Rota civil service employees owed salary adjustments from Public Law 7-31.

"The public law number itself should be a concern," he said. "This is the 19th Legislature. That's over 24 years since the passage…to this year."

He also said he has introduced a bill that would basically give the mayor of Saipan close to over $300,000 in additional funding for its operations and beautification projects. "So it's not like the committee is not mindful of the needs of our respective mayors. Again, we also have to be mindful…that we also have an obligation to provide the service that is expected of us as members of this body. The roughly $400,000 [for the House] that we are trying to move around here I can assure—in communicating with the various members of this body—could afford the members the opportunity to do more," he said.

"I know some member's employees are being laid off periodically because of lack of funding."

House vice speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), for his part, said the more important question is where the funding should go, admitting no objection to more funding for the mayor but reminding lawmakers they've heard testimony for more funding for the veteran's cemetery, which he has felt has been "shortchanged."

The vice speaker also underscored funding needed to secure expertise or advice in producing their bills. "I am happy that we finally included in our payroll an economist and fiscal analyst. We don't have the luxury like the U.S. Congress, with its research arm. If we want to give [the funds] to the legislative bureau so we can hire more expertise then I will support it, but let's not just for the sake of taking, reduce ourselves," he said. "…[the funds] can be used for the right [purposes] and that is why we are here to do better bills and have more research done on the bills that we do introduce."

PSS

From Page 1

of Education special board meeting at the Office of Public Transport conference room in lower base.

The lack of teaching staff and the ongoing minor repair of facilities in all schools are PSS' main concern right now especially since it has been two weeks that school year 2016-2017 started.

Some classes at Marianas High School had to trim down the number of students since classrooms were already full. Students in those classes have yet to have their new teacher.

"We need to give our schools more support so that they have the adequate staffing. We have 14 percent of our schools which have full staff in place and there is still a shortage of 86 percent in our schools," Pangelinan said in her report.

MHS has the largest student population with 1,600 in last week's opening and rose to 1,710 as of Wednesday. Among the elementary schools, Koblerville Elementary School had the biggest number with 600.

Pangelinan said that she is working with associate commissioner for administrative services Glenn Muna and Human Resources Office of director Cindy Deleon Guerrero to address the issues on the lack of staff.

"The instructional materials for reading and Math are now here and we are working to deliver it to schools. We are also working with [the Department of] Finance on what needs to be done to fund the facilities that need repair," said Pangelinan.

She added that the shortage of classrooms at MHS will soon be over as they had already moved out of the central office and the rooms there are now being repaired. "There will be an additional 12 classrooms that they will be able to utilize [them] after the repairs."

Pangelinan said most of MHS' students come from within their zone and only a small population from the other areas. Freshmen are from the feeder schools, middle schools. "I don't have the exact number of what grade level that has the highest increase but most of the students at MHS are within their zone."

Aside from those problems and the threat of a possible storm last week, Pangelinan said that the school opening went rather smoothly. "We had a little bit of rough weather at the beginning of the school year but the general consensus is we had a smooth opening. I was at MHS on opening day and sure there were some problems in registration and scheduling but the administrators and department heads addressed them within the day.

ROTA

From Page 1

which had just arrived from Saipan that same night.

The witness said Mendiola was outside the warehouse talking with someone on the phone and saw the victim fall from the boat.

He estimated that the warehouse is only about 60 feet away from the boat.

The witness said when Mendiola shouted that the victim fell from the vessel, they all ran outside from the warehouse.

He said the victim actually fell into one of the tires attached to the pier so they used a rope to bring him down to the water.

"He was facing up with his legs tangled on the tire. His face was in the water," the witness said.

The witness said their retrieval was done fast, but the victim was already not moving.

Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Jason Tarkong said that on Tuesday at 11:36pm, Rota DPS Police received a call about an injured person at the West Marina Commercial Port, prompting police and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services ambulance to respond to the area.

Tarkong said preliminary interview with witnesses at the scene revealed that the victim, a 62-year-old Filipino male, fell off from M/V *Luta* boat and into the water.

Members of the boat crew assisted in diving into the water and pulling the victim from the water onto shore.

Tarkong said the victim had no pulse and was not breathing and first responders attempted CPR.

The victim was transported to the Rota Health Center and pronounced dead on arrival by Dr. Gregory Kotheimer at 12:04am, Wednesday.

Tarkong said the victim's name is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

"The investigation into this case is ongoing," Tarkong said. No other details were provided.

The witness said the height from the boat to the water was about 5 feet.

The witness said Mendiola and the captain managed to get to the victim quickly, while police and ambulance later arrived.

The witness said he learned that prior to the fall, the victim and another crew were watching TV in one of the boat's room. He said the victim then went outside his room and later fell from the side of the boat.

The witness said the victim, a Filipino-American, was an engineer who came on Rota along with the boat from Louisiana, U.S.A., last March.

He said he knows that the victim does not drink alcoholic beverages.

He said the victim was telling other crew that his son from the Philippines came to the U.S. after he successfully petitioned him.

The witness said apparently the son, however, got into an accident at a swimming pool in the U.S. and became comatose.

The witness also disclosed that the victim and the boat's other crew were complaining about not getting wages lately.

Last May, former Department of Public Lands Secretary John DelRosario filed a taxpayer's lawsuit against Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog and Department of Finance Secretary Larissa Larson over the alleged adoption of a Rota Legislative Delegation resolution without public notice that purportedly authorized payment of $400,000 to a private company owned by relatives of Hocog.

Rota Legislative Delegation Resolution 19-03 was approved "to authorize the Department of Finance to pay for fuel, lubrication, and other costs necessary for the maiden voyage of the vessel from Louisiana to its new home port on Rota, and to provide for the personnel and operational costs of the Office of the Mayor of Rota."

The M/V *Luta* was supposed to reduce the waiting time for shipments to come in since the barge is having a hard time to come in to the dock.

M/V *Luta* was recently used to pick up a 20-member environmental group that was stranded on Pagan for close to a week.

TEREGEYO

From Page 3

was the board never met. I attend the advisory board meetings and we already had two this month so far," said Teregeyo.

The Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Northern Islands mayors nominate one member each for the advisory board with one appointed by the governor. Henry Hofschneider (Saipan), David Evangelista (Tinian), Antonio Quitugua (Rota), William Torres (Northern Islands), and Manuel Mangarero (governor's appointee) are the DPL advisory board members.

Public comments

Two made their public comments yesterday, from both sides—in favor of abolishment and not in favor. Connie C. Togawa, a former chairperson of the Land Commission that later became Land Registration, was in favor of abolishing DPL, while Bernardo Cruz was against it.

Togawa said DPL's problem now is its decision making. "Some land transactions are illegal, and have not been reviewed and rectified," said Togawa, who's been working on land matters since 1957 and was certified as an expert witness on all land matters by the CNMI Supreme Court.

"I'm seeing irregularities on the way they are giving out land. It is inappropriate and only one is making the decisions. They have an advisory board but they have no power," added Togawa.

Cruz, on the other hand, does not support DPL being abolished after MPLA took 18,000 square meters of his land in Tanapag and was not properly compensated. "I stand by myself and the witnesses. I want you to rethink your decision regarding DPL, which have been trying to correct the past mistakes."

From Page 4

behind," Toves said.

"There are some issues and technicalities we are facing. Every time we have…a project and we bid out, there is always tendency for protest and we try as much as possible to avoid those things because those are the sources of delays for us to progress in our projects."

CPA also reported the hiring of a new master electrician this month.

Acting executive director Chris Tenorio said they advertised for the position since June 2016 and as of Aug. 23, the new master electrician started on the job.

"Filling the position is an essential position which will assist us in various projects," Tenorio said, after also presenting a report on issues with their runway lights earlier this month that forced CPA to caution airmen on flying in.

Saipan airport manager Edward Mendiola presented the status of their baggage handling system and said a technician would be arriving this Saturday in the early morning to trouble shoot and repair the baggage-handling system.

They had an on-island technician assess the system for two days but found no problem with the hardware, he said, which prompted them to immediately contact the company that owned the equipment to remotely troubleshoot the conveyor system but "there were problems with Internet line."

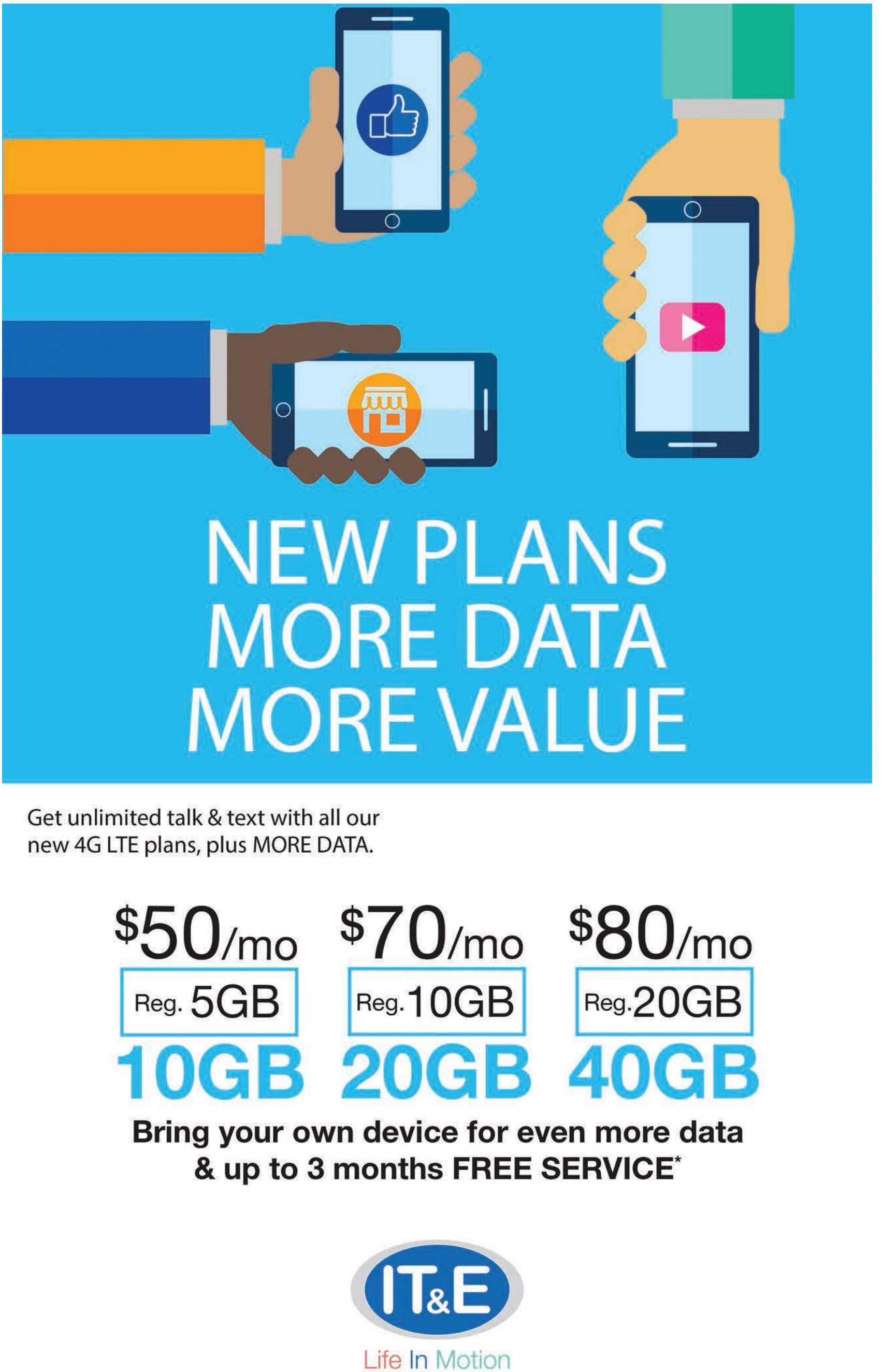
"We couldn't touch it because the modem equipment that is attached to the conveyor system is part of their equipment and we didn't want to further damage whatever they have… so right away we requested for them to come out to assess and repair the system."

He said they cut an emergency purchase order and says he has been following up on if the engineer could come at an earlier time but unfortunately, was told all their engineers were assigned elsewhere.

Toves also ties their issues with infrastructure partly to the tough time hiring the right expertise.

"It's been kind of hard to get these expert people with the salary package we are offering," he told reporters yesterday, "so we have a bill in the Legislature right now that we are hoping our leaders will support that will allow CPA to be able to be the one to give the compensation package according to the specialties it needs."

He said they have a salary cap of $50,000 but it is hard to offer that much and they hope the Legislature approves their recommendation to give $70,000 to $80,000 salaries to these kinds of professionals.



AT TRIAL OF CHINESE NATIONAL IN 'ICE' CASE

Federal prosecutor assures plural pronouns to be used appropriately

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth R. Backe has assured that plural pronouns will be used when it is appropriate during the jury trial of Zhaopeng Chen, one of three Chinese nationals charged in federal court over methamphetamine or "ice" shipment.

Backe, counsel for the U.S. government, said they understand that unfair confusion could arise if plural pronouns are used inappropriately.

Backe said for instance, in the example given by defendant Chen—"they were in the hotel room and [co-defendant Shicheng] Cai made the call about the drugs"—the U.S. government fully expects Cai to testify that "they were in the hotel room when he (Cai) called Sunleader" because all three defendants were in the hotel room.

David G. Banes, the court-appointed counsel for Chen, has filed a motion requesting the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue an order prohibiting witnesses, interpreters, and counsel from using plural pronouns in formulating questions or providing answers in the upcoming trial.

"Such an order from the court will stave off potential confusion, will reduce the possibility that the jury will be mislead as to defendant Chen's involvement, presence or knowledge, and will better allow the jury to complete their truth-seeking junction," said Banes in Chen's motion in limine.

Motion in limine refers to a request made before the start of a trial asking that the judge rule that certain evidence may, or may not, be introduced to the jury in a trial.

In the U.S. government's response to the motion, Backe said it is also likely that a law enforcement officer will testify that "they traveled north on Isa Drive toward San Vicente in the FJ Cruiser," because the evidence will show that Huang and Chen were both in the vehicle when that occurred.

Lastly, Backe said, the U.S. government expects Cai to testify that Huang made statements to him before he picked the paint bucket from Sunleader to the effect that "we will follow and watch out for you," because Cai will further testify that Huang used that plural pronoun himself.

Thus, Backe said, there is nothing unfair—let alone "substantially unfair" as used in Rule 403—about using plural pronouns in these type of situations.

The indictment charged Chen, Huang, and Cai with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine over the shipment of 4.9 lbs of "ice" worth $850,000 in 2015.

A routine Customs inspection at the Port of Saipan of a 40-foot container from Guangzhou, China, reportedly resulted in the discovery of the 4.9 lbs of "ice" hidden in three plastic bags in one of the nine 5-gallon paint containers on Dec. 2, 2015.

Joint federal and local enforcers investigated the discovery of the "ice" that later led to the arrest of the three defendants.

Huang and Cai both pleaded guilty. Huang was recently slapped with 188 months or 15 years and eight months of imprisonment. Cai has yet to be sentenced.

NMPASI seeks new board members

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. also known as NMPASI will bid adieu to several members of its board of directors at the end of this fiscal year on Sept. 30, 2016.

Founded in 1993, the local non-profit organization is the state-designated agency for protection and advocacy services on behalf of individuals with disabilities. NMPASI relies primarily on federal grant programs to sustain its operations and to pursue its mission "To protect the civil, legal, and human rights of individuals with disabilities."

While the office, known in part for being the "watchdog" of disability-related services, enjoys at least a small level of notoriety for its aggressive stance in support of the individual rights of people with disabilities—sometimes against our own government and other much larger establishments in the community—its staff acknowledges that none of it could have been possible without the commitment of a "solid" board of directors.

"Behind the scenes of any accomplished non-profit organization is a board of directors made up of individuals sternly committed to its mission," according to NMPASI executive director James M. Rayphand.

"In our case," he says, "the board is comprised of 11 people (a majority of who have to be persons with disabilities and/or immediate family members of people with disabilities) who volunteer to, among other things, develop and insure adherence to organizational policies and procedures. Additionally, the board is responsible for 'recruiting, hiring, evaluating and, if deemed necessary, terminating and removing the executive director in accordance with organizational policies and procedures."

As for seeking new members, the board itself re-established new term limits for membership to comply with conditions of NMPASI's grant programs wherein "terms shall be staggered and for four years except for members appointed to fill a vacancy…a member who has been appointed to a term of four years may not be reappointed to the board for a two-year period beginning on the date on which the four-year term expired".

Presently, the membership terms for six of our current board members are due to expire on Sept. 30, 2016 and members of our executive committee are opting to "cast a wider net" for new members by announcing the vacancies publicly.

"Ultimately, we want to identify board members who believe in our mission and who are willing to volunteer their time in support of that mission," added Rayphand. "It helps also to have people who won't back down when confronted with issues that could negatively impact the rights of individuals with disabilities, including but not limited to holding ourselves accountable to prescribed standards for protection and advocacy."

The current NMPASI board members are: Ellena Sutton (president), Robert T. Torres (vice president), Felicitas "Tee" Abraham (secretary), Rita Cruz (treasurer), John "Pan" Guerrero, Jr., Daniel Ada, Helen Sablan, Augusta Palacios (Tinian member), Raymond Castro (Rota member), and Melrosa Rebuenog (PAIMI Advisory Council member).

For more on NMPASI and/or protection and advocacy services for individuals with disabilities, please contact the NMPASI Office at (670) 235-7273/4 [tel.] /235-7275 [fax/tty] or via the Internet at www.nmpasi.org. ***(PR)***

Man accused of sexual abuse of a minor gets 5 years in jail

A 29-year-old man accused of sexually abusing a 13-year-old girl twice last year, entered a guilty plea yesterday in the Superior Court and was slapped with the maximum sentence of five years imprisonment.

Kevin Jason Kaipat signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded guilty to the offense of sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho accepted the plea agreement and sentenced Kaipat to the maximum of five years imprisonment to be served day for day, without the possibility of parole, probation, early release, and work release.

» Defendant given credit of 50 days for time served

Kaipat was given credit of 50 days for time served. He was ordered to pay a $25 court cost, register with the CNMI Sex Offender Registry, and submit to examinations focusing on sex offender counseling.

The defendant, through counsel, made an oral request to surrender himself to the Department of Corrections on Sept. 6, 2016. Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley, counsel for the government, objected to the request.

Camacho denied Kaipat's request. The judge told the defendant that he has pled guilty to the charge and that he is no longer presumed innocent.

Camacho said the Department of Corrections is not a hotel and defendant does not choose when to check in and out.

After the hearing, the judge ordered the court marshal to take Kaipat back into the custody of DOC to start serving his sentence.

The Office of the Attorney General originally charged Kaipat with sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

The OAG yesterday moved to amend the information by dismissing the charge of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, an offense that carries the maximum sentence of 30 years imprisonment.

The OAG requested to charge Kaipat instead with sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree, an offense that carries a maximum sentence of five years imprisonment.

AAG Foley said after careful review of the investigative reports and the applicable legal authority, the government seeks to amend the charge.

Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig and assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit, counsel for Kaipat, did not object.

Camacho granted the motion to amend.

Foley said the victim supported the terms of the plea deal.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Kaipat unlawfully engaged in sexual contact with the girl when he fondled her private part on Sept. 8, 2015 on Saipan.

Police said Kaipat sexually abused the girl twice in Dandan and in Kagman in 2015.

Police said the girl stated that the first incident happened at a house in Dandan after Typhoon Soudelor struck Saipan in August 2015.

The girl also told police that the second incident happened inside a tent that was given by the American Red Cross at a house in Kagman last Sept. 8. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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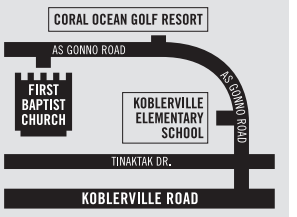

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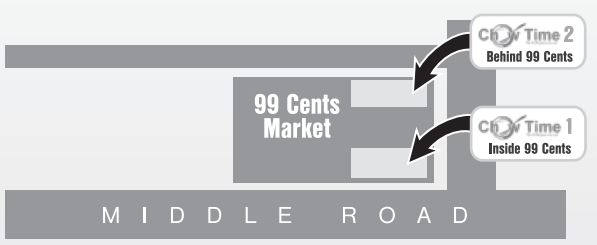

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Ajisen Ramen opens in Garapan

JON PEREZ

Ajisen Ramen's friendly staff is ready to serve Saipan residents Ajisen's world famous rich Tonkotsu (pork broth) ramen.

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By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

WHAT'S COOKING?

Saipan's restaurant market continues to expand with the entry of Japan-based food chain Ajisen Ramen, which brings in the authentic and rich Kyushu Tonkotsu (pork) broth to the island. Ajisen opened last night after a couple of days of training the staff.

Ajisen's franchise is owned and operated by Oishi CNMI LLC with Jay Onedera as one of the partners. It is sister restaurant of nearby IHOP, whose franchise is under Pacific Pancakes LLC under president Richard Hart.

IHOP general manager Michael T. Valencia also supervises Ajisen that has a working staff of 30, both in the kitchen and dine in area. Four trainers from Guam and one Japanese chef from Ajisen's Hong Kong branch helped in preparing the staff for its daily operations.

Valencia said that all of their ingredients, from the noodles to the seasonings, are all imported from Japan to make sure the taste and quality stays the same. "We must follow the same standards and quality of all Ajisen outlets worldwide."

"So if you go to Ajisen in Japan or their other outlets, the taste and the way the food is prepared must always remain the same," said Valencia, who has a more than 15 years experience in the food and restaurant industry.

He said that it would not be easy juggling his time with Ajisen and IHOP. "I've been in the restaurant industry for a long time. You really need dedication in handling the operations. We're facing a big challenge in front of us since these are international restaurants.

"These are brand name establishments that have a reputation and standard to maintain. Once the everything in our system of operations are in place, I can breathe a lot easier," added Valencia, who also previously worked at Hard Rock Café Saipan.

Valencia said he would also promote some of his staff at Ajisen. "I would help those who want advancement especially promote those who have leadership skills. I'll need supervisors since I'm handling the operations of two restaurants."

"Everyday you learn something new that's why we will be rotating our staff in other stations for them to experience the different areas here in the restaurant. Seeing some of your staff grow and someday get promoted, either here or in another restaurant, that is really priceless."

Japanese vibe

Ajisen seats 50 people, including a mini function room for 10 people. It has a counter that has five stools, similar to the typical Japanese ramen house you can find in the streets of Tokyo or other places in Japan.

Even the way staff wear bandanas are patterned on how Japanese laborers tie theirs on their heads. Another striking interior design is the row of ramen bowls hanging on the wall. "It is very simple design but it adds a nice touch and vibe at our restaurant.

Trainer Richard Ubaldo said the Volcano Ramen is considered to be Ajisen's specialty and is among the favorites even in other outlets. "But if you don't like spicy food, we have a very simple ramen that is water based and shoyu sauce."

Ubaldo, who works behind the scenes as one of the trainers of the kitchen staff, said Ajisen's broth is special where they boil pork meat including the bones. "We boil it until the broth becomes white and that adds more flavor."

Ajisen, established in 1968 in Kumamoto Prefecture in Japan, arrived in the Marianas six years ago as a small noodle house franchise in Guam that later expanded to a bigger branch. They now have two branches in Dededo and Tamuning.

Australia, Cambodia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States, and Vietnam are the other countries that have an Ajisen outlet that is outside Japan aside from the CNMI and Guam.

For more information on Ajisen Saipan, call 233-0304 or 233-0305. Ajisen Saipan is along Beach Road Garapan right beside IHOP across from TSL Plaza.

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Man drives car with wife, 2 children aboard toward Tinian's Suicide Cliff

An alleged intoxicated man drove his car recklessly, with his wife and two minor children aboard, toward Suicide Cliff on Tinian, where he only applied the brakes when they were about to hit the wall, then beat her up last week.

Vincent Barcinas Aldan, 27, was arrested on Tuesday afternoon for one count of assault, four counts of assault and battery, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

Police said Aldan admitted to driving the car to Suicide Cliff, where he slammed the head of his wife against the vehicle's roof, hit her head with a cap, and that he accidentally hit the head of their 2-month old baby with his hand.

Aldan also allegedly admitted driving his car from 40 to 50 miles per hour on their way to Suicide Cliff, strangling his wife's neck. He also admitted pulling his wife's hair and hit her with pillows before.

The victim suffered a contusion on the forehead, while the 2-month old baby had minor contusion on the head. They were treated at the Tinian Health Center.

At Aldan's initial court appearance yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho granted chief public defender Douglas Hartig's request to release defendant on a $5,000 unsecured bond with some conditions because he was held in custody for more than 24 hours.

Arraignment will be on Sept. 9 at 9am at the Tinian Courthouse.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Tinian Department of Public Safety Police Officer Barbara K. Arend stated in her report that last Aug. 17 at 6:40pm, the victim called DPS emergency line for assistance because her husband beat her up.

The victim told responding police officers that Aldan came home drunk and they got into an argument.

To avoid violence, she left the house, leaving their two children because of heavy rain. Aldan followed in a car with the children. He cut in front of his wife, blocking her way and told her to get in.

When the wife got into the car, Aldan sped off and drove recklessly, jerking the car from side to side.

While shouting they all are going to die, Aldan did not slow down when they entered the Suicide Cliff parking lot. He drove up the curb and only hit the brakes when they were about to slam into the wall that protects people from falling down the cliff.

The wife said she was so scared, thinking they could not make it and go over the cliff. As she was taking their children out of the car, Aldan abruptly backed up the car, causing their 3-year-old son to fall close to the car's wheel.

The wife screamed thinking that their son was hit by the car. Aldan approached and strangled her neck, hit her head with an object. Aldan, however, accidentally hit the head of their 2-month-old baby.

As they were aboard the car, Aldan sped off the vehicle all the way home.

The wife said Aldan would hurt her before whenever he was drunk and in a bad mood, but the last incident was the worst ever. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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2016 Honda Civic LX retail price $21,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of $286.66 or $132.30 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $20,639.52.
2016 Honda HR-V LX retail price $23,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of $312.72 or $144.33 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $22,515.84.
2016 Honda Accord LX retail price $25,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of $338.79 or $156.37 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $24,392.88.

McDonald's donates to MINA's Green Gala

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

McDonald's Saipan has donated $1,000 to the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance that will be used by the conservation group's preparations for its annual fundraiser called the Green Gala.

McDonald's Middle Road branch manager Joe E. Ayuyu Jr., presented the $1,000 check to MINA's interim executive director Becky Furey yesterday at McDonald's Middle Road branch.

Green Gala is MINA's biggest annual fundraising event in celebration of over 10 years of working with the island communities for conservation. Proceeds from the event would be used to fund projects of MINA throughout the year.

ERWIN ENCINARES

McDonald's Saipan's Natalie Mable Ayuyu and Joe Ayuyu Jr. and Micronesia Islands Nature Allience acting executive director Becky Furey pose together with staff from both McDonald's and MINA at the McDonald's Middle Road branch yesterday.

Furey expresses gratefulness toward McDonald's. "Our fundraiser raises critical funds to help ongoing conservation efforts and today we are welcoming McDonald's as a major sponsor," said Furey. "We are very grateful for McDonald's' contribution and supporting our ongoing conservation efforts here."

Ayuyu Jr. is excited to partner with MINA in various conservation efforts. "We're very happy to be supporting a group such as MINA, a non-profit group that really focuses on the conservation of our islands and our natural resources for the future generations," said Ayuyu Jr.

McDonald's is also doing their part in the conservation of the environment. According to Ayuyu Jr., stability plays an important role in doing business. "The reason we are proud to support them is because McDonald's is into stability, if you guys have seen we have made a lot of changes with our food and with our packaging. For example, we used to have a lot of plastic packaging for our nuggets, and now we have gone to 100 percent recyclable paper packaging," said Ayuyu Jr.

Ayuyu Jr. also claims that change no matter the scale is better than nothing at all. "It might just be a little change, but whatever little thing we could do to better conserve, is a step in the right direction towards sustainability. It looks like these guys are the right partners to have," concluded Ayuyu Jr.

The Green Gala would be held at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa on Sept. 2, 2016. Tickets to the green gala is $75 inclusive of entrance, two free drinks, prizes, giveaways, dinner, and an enjoyable experience.

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	8/1	8/2 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/3 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/4	8/5 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/6 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
8/7 **Sunday Brunch $22**	8/8	8/9 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/10 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/11	8/12 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/13 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
8/14 **Sunday Brunch $22**	8/15	8/16 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/17 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/18	8/19 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/20 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
8/21 **Sunday Brunch $22**	8/22	8/23 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/24 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/25	8/26 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/27 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
8/28 **Sunday Brunch $22**	8/29	8/30 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/31 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)			

* Our **"Dolphin"** restaurant (10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan) has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu ($8~) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner ($35). "Spectacular Ocean view and Sunset!" Open time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm / Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm Last Order : 8:30pm
* **"Starlight BBQ"** Dinner Buffet Location: Poolside Price: Reg. AD $39 CH: $19 (Local: AD $35/ CH $17) Business hrs: 6:00-9:00pm
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8:30 p.m. Chamorro Community
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www.mymarianas.com
/mymarianas

For more information contact Ryan Calvo at 664-3200/01 or rcalvo@mymarianas.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

ACH Chuuk Association meeting on Aug. 27

The ACH Chuuk Association will hold its Charter Day Celebration on Aug 27, 9:30am at the Garapan Central Park. ***(PR)***

VA Benefits outreach on Aug. 31

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration (Non-health) will be conducting a Veterans Benefits Outreach this Aug. 31, 2016, from 9am to 3pm at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic, MH II Bldg., Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan.

A VA Benefits counselor will be available to answer Benefits questions, and assist with the claim process.

Points of contact are Ruth Coleman at 322-0035 or Chris Duenas at 1-671-648-0090/93. ***(PR)***

Kagman cluster schools PTSA on Sept. 1

The Kagman cluster schools—Kagman Elementary School, Kagman High School, and Chacha Oceaview Middle School—will hold its PTSA meeting on Sept. 1, 5pm.

PTSA is a place where parents can get active and do something with the schools. Your partnership and involvement is highly encouraged!

All PTSA attendees get raffle tickets to win prizes the night of the meeting and for a chance to win in the big end-of-the-year raffle. The more you attend, the more chances you have to win!

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at the numbers listed below.

- KagES main office: 664-3911
- COVMS main office: 664-4100
- KHS main office: 664-3780 ***(PR)***

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A federal program that was introduced by Congress in 2000 is now available in the CNMI. Civic Integrity, Inc., a Community Development Entity (CDE) designated by the U.S. Department of Treasury is able to bring the New Market Tax Credit (NMTC) program to the CNMI. The program, which is administered by the Community Development Financial Institute, a division of the U.S. Treasury, exchanges federal tax credits for capital investments into low-income communities.

To date, the program has allocated approximately $43 billion in tax credits, with $42 billion resulting in commercial investments throughout the nation. Of the insular areas, only Puerto Rico has been able to avail of the program to the tune of nearly $110 million dollars. Civic Integrity, Inc. is the only CDE in the nation authorized to offer the credits in the CNMI.

"The program provides an exciting opportunity to bring private capital to our community, by which all accounts is considered low-income and severely underserved. With issues surrounding Article XII, local financial institutions are largely restricted and rightfully cautious of commercial lending. The CNMI has launched the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI), however, commercial financing continues to be a struggle. The new market tax credit program allows large scale lending and equity investments into local projects through the designated financial intermediary, Civic Integrity, Inc. which can service a variety of business enterprises in our community" said local businessman Erick Van Der Maas.

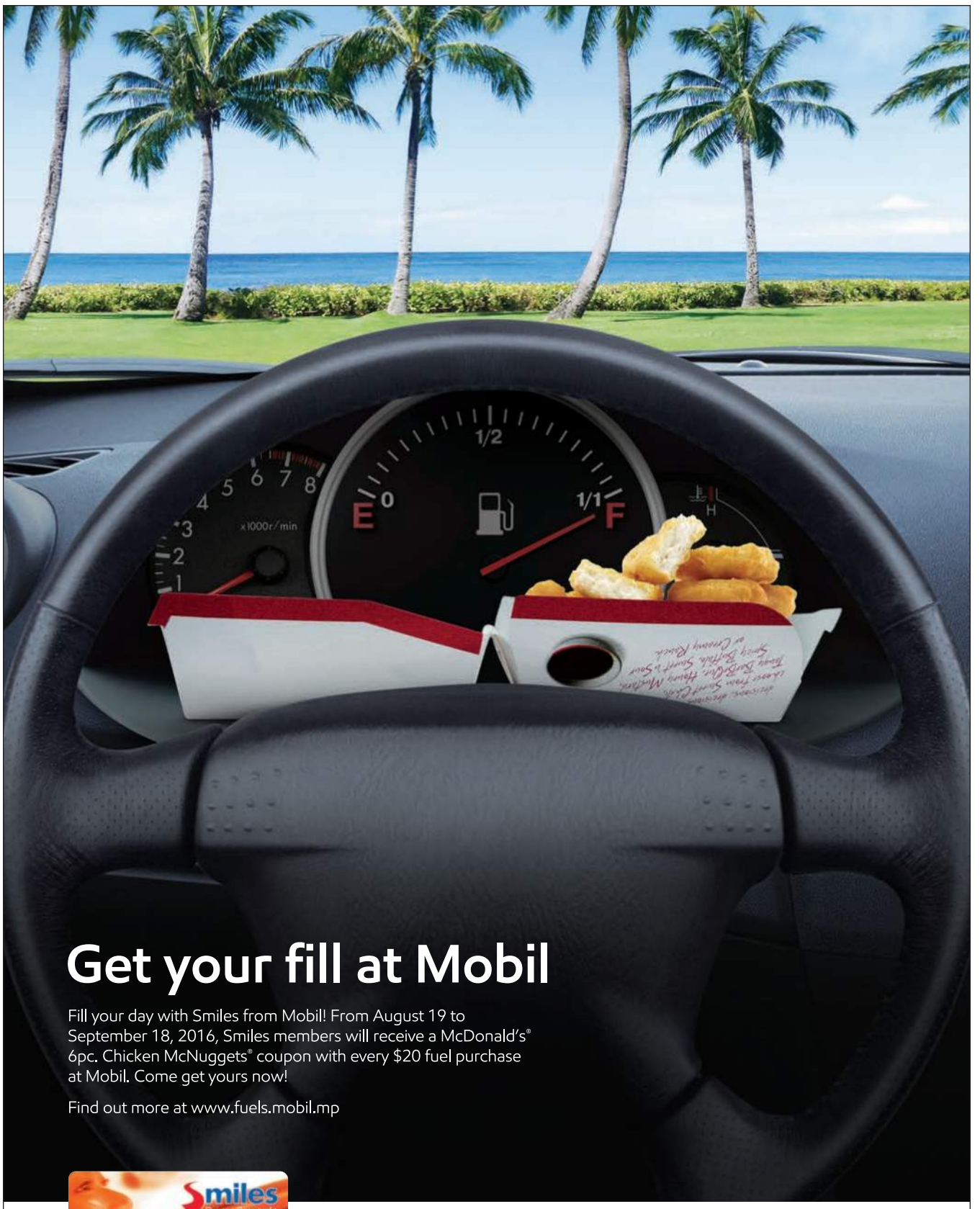
Rabauliman

The program, which this year alone will allocate nearly $7 billion in tax credits, provides investors a 39 percent credit against their federal income tax liabilities for their investments into an approved CDE. The CDEs then deploy the capital investments through favorable loan terms or equity investments into business enterprises in identified low-income communities.

In late 2015, Civic Integrity, Inc. was designated by the U.S. Treasury to service the CNMI. The firm has a locally based advisory board, intended to ensure that capital investments that are deployed into the CNMI are in alignment with the community needs and priorities.

"As Commerce secretary, I am very much excited about this program. This program opens up a wealth of opportunity for companies seeking to raise capital through either debt or equity. It provides an attractive incentive for investors into the CDE through the 39 percent credit, while providing the flexibility for the CDE to place the funds into a single project, or a variety of projects. As we are in the process of developing the CNMI's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), we will definitely be including this financing option for identified projects" said CNMI Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman.

To learn more about the program, visit www.civicintegrity.net. ***(PR)***


Get your fill at Mobil
Fill your day with Smiles from Mobil! From August 19 to September 18, 2016, Smiles members will receive a McDonald's® 6pc. Chicken McNuggets® coupon with every $20 fuel purchase at Mobil. Come get yours now!
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i'm lovin' it®
Offer ends on September 18, 2016 or while supplies of McDonald's 6pc. Chicken McNuggets coupons last. McDonald's 6pc. Chicken McNuggets coupons are redeemable only with Mobil fuel receipts attached at any participating Saipan McDonald's outlet from August 19 until September 30, 2016. Each customer is limited to one redemption of 6pc. Chicken McNuggets per visit. Chicken McNuggets are served after 10:30am. Not valid with any other McDonald's offer. Fleet Card and non-fuel purchases are not eligible for this promotion. See detailed terms and conditions at participating Saipan Mobil stations. Call our toll-free hotline at 1-866-486-7751 Monday through Friday from 10am to 7pm for more details. All trademarks used herein, other than "McDonald's" and "Chicken McNuggets", are trademarks or registered trademarks of Exxon Mobil Corporation or one of its subsidiaries.

Volunteers needed for AMP's 1st Day of Service

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and Park Superintendent Jim Richardson invite residents to join the first Day of Service to help clean up American Memorial Park this Saturday, Aug. 27, from 7am to 11am.

Meet and sign in at the Amphitheater. Volunteers will be able to assist with a variety of projects in the memorial grounds, the Visitors Center, and the wetland areas of the Park. Please wear protective clothing and shoes suitable for outdoor work. Water, refreshments, gloves, sunscreen, and other supplies will be provided. Volunteers under 18 must have signed permission from a parent or guardian.

Register in person at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center or online at https://americanmemorialparkdayofservice.eventbrite.com, or simply show up at the Park Amphitheater on Saturday morning. For more information, contact the congressional office at kilili@mail.house.gov or (670) 323-2647. ***(PR)***

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 30, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. **PRELIMINARY**
   a. Call to Order
   b. Roll Call
   c. Adoption of Agenda

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** [1]

III. **REPORTS**
   a. Chair's Report
   b. Executive Director's Report

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

V. **NEW BUSINESS**
   a. Sick Leave Bank Policies & Procedures

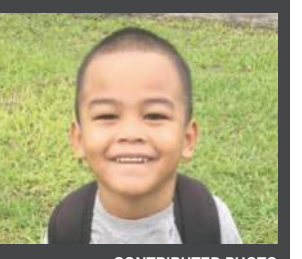
VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** [2]

VII. **MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

[1] Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 5th birthday, Kale! Wishing you the best of wishes on your special day! God bless you. From the Attao/Sablan family.

Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 | Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP No.: 2016-CDA-07-RFP

CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 a.m.**

"INSURANCE FOR CDA'S PROPERTIES"

Copies of the Scope of Work may be obtained at the Commonwealth Development Authority office, 2nd Floor CDA Building in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours or by facsimile request to 235-7147.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Kan Pacific Saipan

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION MONTH

September 1st - 30th

$49.99
Angus Beef Set
Bottomless Asahi Beer

MENU

Appetizer
Salad
Angus Beef Tenderloin (80g)
Angus Beef Sirloin (80g)
Vegetables
Miso Soup
Steamed rice & pickled vegetables
Dessert

Special only from 9:00pm - 11:00pm
20% Local Discount

Zen 禅

TEPPANYAKI RESTAURANT

An Authentic Experience

Open Nightly: from 6:00pm to 11:00pm Corner of Coconut St. and Coffee Tree Mall, Garapan
For reservations, call 322-0770

Mariana Resort & Spa

Customer Appreciation

Getaway Special

Reef or Maisonette room with breakfast for 2, free entrance to the Mandi Asian Spa for 2 and special rate of $25 for a 50-minute massage for Getaway Special room guests
for only $120+tax

Mandi Suite with breakfast for 2
for only $160+tax

Mandi Asian Spa - Local promotion:
50-minute Asian Blend or Shiatsu massage and free entrance to the Spa
for only $30

Mandi Asian Spa
Saipan Mariana Resort & Spa

For reservations or inquiries, call 322-0770
Valid CNMI ID required for all Customer Appreciation Specials.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVI, Issue No. 170

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EDITORIAL

Diagnosing Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton

Donald Trump's spokeswoman thinks she can diagnose a mental illness, dysphasia, in Hillary Clinton. This when we all know Clinton's real problem is that she can have a maniacal aversion to speaking truths. Although, to be consistent with our theme today, editorial writers without medical degrees shouldn't associate people with manias. But we're not alone in violating professional boundaries.

This presidential campaign has been odd in many ways, but among its wretched excesses is the penchant of experts and nonexperts to issue categorical judgments about the mental and physical health of the two major party candidates. This year, it's not enough to say, in the standard colloquial manner of expressing distaste, that "Donald Trump is nutty" or "Hillary Clinton is sick." This year, more literal claims are being made. And we find the trend unhealthy, in a strictly nonmedical sense.

One egregious example comes from Trump aide Katrina Pierson, who said it's apparent from "observations of Hillary Clinton's behavior or mannerisms" that she suffers from dysphasia, a brain ailment that impairs speech and comprehension of language. Dr. Drew Pinsky, of TV's "Celebrity Rehab," says the eyeglasses she used after her 2012 concussion indicate "brain damage." Some right-wing websites are pushing notions — rife with "Gotcha! enthusiasm if not with medical evidence — that Clinton is enfeebled.

Pinsky, as it happens, is not a neurologist, and more important, he's never examined the patient he diagnosed so confidently. Pierson's medical credentials are even thinner — a bachelor's degree in biology. Neither one has any sound basis for the conclusions he and she has reached. The clinical term for what they offer is "idle speculation."

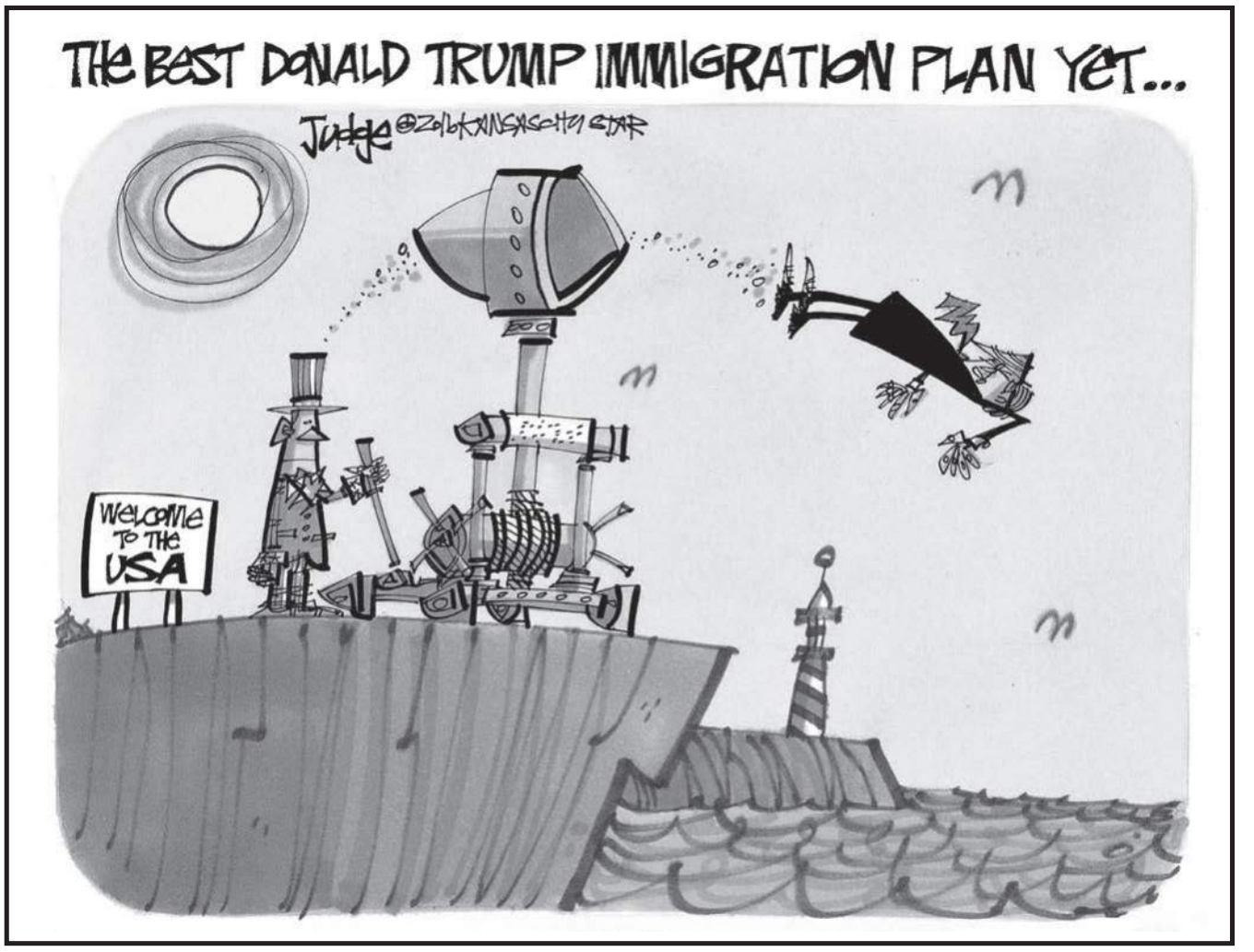
Trump's people should know better, if only because he, too, has been the object of uninformed theorizing by people with too much time on their hands. Clinical psychologist Ben Michaelis told Vanity Fair he represents "textbook narcissistic personality disorder." The liberal website Daily Kos argued, "His immature outbursts, his brazen narcissism, and his faulty cognition, are all indications of senility."

Or they could be indications he's a vain jerk with a short fuse and a careless approach to the truth. The American Psychiatric Association's ethics code says, "It is unethical for a psychiatrist to offer a professional opinion unless he or she has conducted an examination and has been granted proper authorization for such a statement."

That policy, significantly, was adopted after hundreds of psychiatrists, asked by Fact magazine if 1964 Republican nominee Barry Goldwater was "psychologically fit to be president," said he wasn't — despite their vast ignorance of his mental state. Goldwater won a libel suit against the magazine, and the psychiatric profession was sorely embarrassed.

The APA has the right idea. "'Diagnosing' someone at a distance who you haven't examined is closer to trying to

See DIAGNOSING on Next Page



Pearly gate for sale

It isn't surprising that offers have been—and continues to be made—of the pearly gate to pave the way for the 2018 gubernatorial race. It's elite politics to prolong newfound elitist culture of arrogance, apathy, negligence, steak and lobster, at the expense of "we the people."

However, the seeds planted would be torched by a prolonged political drought season that has descended since two weeks ago. It's blind ambition ignoring basic issues that would net a harvest of devastation! It's being handled at the junior varsity level easily dismantled. A single query nullifies the entire nine yards. You see punditry is entirely different from reality.

The game plan is obvious strangely though it hasn't pan-out as envisioned. Interestingly, the two players are negligent of the self-destructing agenda at their feet. I'm sure they could sense the dreadful day when the tip of Mt. Tapochau disappears behind them heading into the sunset. The journey into political oblivion has begun. It is irreversible!

Realignment in a viciously divided house isn't going anywhere. There's but headwinds up ahead the goal seemingly near yet so far. Must learn how to read the fading sunset as cloud after cloud begins to glow. It's a skill only the wise and seasoned few could interpret.

Transparency in office

Understood the slogan, "To the victors belong the spoils." It happens and most would acknowledge it as a given but must be done within the confines of the law.

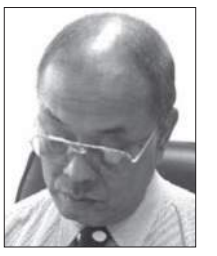
It brings into mind where did Mayor Efraim Atalig secure his authority to grant Ms. Vivian Hokog "administrative leave." Isn't this limited to civil service employees and that the only other person allowed its use is the governor? OPA must move in with critical ocular review of this matter.

It is also rumored that the Rota Municipal government has several "ghost" employees on the payroll. The scenario involves the use of fictitious names for payroll purposes. Recipient of public funds as ghost employees never had to report to work that allegedly receive hefty biweekly loot. It's good form of income generation for being political loyalists at the expense of taxpayers!

Recalled a recent case of a former senator convicted of such crime and had to suffer in disgrace. The rumor, if probed thoroughly, could land us more big fish shortly, a victory for all taxpayers!

I insist on these issues being probed to the hilt until all the cows come home to roost, so to speak. We the taxpayers deserve better legal protection in the disposition of our taxes!

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Homework anybody?

President Obama leaves behind some 174 "midnight regulations" when he leaves the WH in January of 2017. Private industry isn't happy at the thought that the impending impositions would mean some $100 billion in additional cost of doing business nationwide.

With the national economy inching by a paltry two percent annually, he should have ensured that the new regulations spur stronger business growth and that there are sufficient funds to cover the $20 trillion in national deficit he wrought under his charge.

Moreover, I'm sublimely interested to know if anybody on our side ever sees fit to review Mr. O's midnight regulations to ensure none adversely cripples the islands up ahead.

NMI's front door

MVA has been knocking on the doors of CPA to fix and spruce up the airports and seaports NMI-wide. The airport is basically our front door into the living room. It needs major overhaul to give visitors to the islands a good first impression of a welcoming ambiance.

Perhaps both agencies could join hands to ensure real service and welcoming teams are at the entrance to say "Buenas," welcome to the NMI.

Recalled my landing in Tahiti met by beautiful music and pleasant flowery scent immediately after the large door opens. We were met with lively and harmonious island music as we were escorted to a pleasant waiting area. Hawaii also offers assistance to speed up going through immigration.

Friends it's all about ambiance and a welcoming demeanor that leaves that impression in the minds of first or returning visitors. Tourism being the primary industry here makes MVA's requests a vital consideration.

See PEARLY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Stumbling on tourism

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

Tourism is such a large and sophisticated industry that it's easy to overlook the fact that it holds opportunities for players that aren't large or sophisticated. That's one reason it's my favorite industry; it's got something for just about everyone. Me, I stumbled into the industry quite by luck, long before I ever heard of Saipan.

My tourism gig got rolling when I was an airport bum in the Mainland. I spent early mornings and late afternoons flying traffic-reporting duty for a few AM radio stations. This left about five hours of free time in the middle of the day. I split this time between going to the beach and giving flight lessons. On very rare occasions I'd give an air tour, but those customers were like neutrinos; I never had any idea where they came from nor where they went, and the mass seemed too small to worry about.

During my drives to and from the beach, I noticed that at midday there always seemed to be six or seven cars parked next to the airport fence along an otherwise bare stretch of road. There wasn't anything in that area at all. I couldn't figure out why the cars were there.

I asked a more experienced airport bum about this.

"Those are fence watchers," he said.

"What's a fence watcher?" I asked.

"They're office workers from the nearby buildings. They pull their cars up to the fence, eat lunch, and watch the airplanes take-off and land."

I just shrugged at that. OK, I thought; so now I know what a fence watcher is.

As luck would have it, shortly thereafter I had lunch with one of the radio station managers who ran our airborne traffic reports. This guy was a super-smart business promoter. As an item of general interest, I mentioned this new species of airport life that I had learned about, namely, the fence watcher.

"Ed, those are future customers, sitting right there," he said.

I hadn't considered it in those terms. Until then, that is. I soon invested an entire $10 in making photocopied flyers that offered flight lessons and air tours. It only took a few minutes to make my daily rounds of the fence watchers, to introduce myself, and to hand out the flyers.

Flight lessons got main billing. The air tour stuff was more of an afterthought. My assumptions were exactly wrong on this count. It turned out that air tours were the far more popular thing. So, of course, I adjusted my next $10 batch of flyers accordingly.

And yet, here again, too, I made a wrong assumption. I had reckoned that since airplane tours were cheaper than helicopter flights, the airplane tours would be more popular. After all, I noticed that the first thing people asked about was the price. But the price issue turned out to be a false path. When it came to racking up actual sales, people preferred helicopters. Well, being quite the high roller, I dropped another $10 on my next batch of flyers to highlight the copters.

Things grew from there. I'll just pause now to strike a tally. First of all, I had entirely overlooked an opportunity that was sitting under my very nose. After that, I misjudged the sort of service that would sell the best. And, after that, I managed to misjudge things yet again. And yet, having made those miscalculations, and having spent merely $30 on advertising, things worked out OK.

Of course, things could have just as easily not worked out OK. I chalk it up to randomness and the related power of trial and error. Still, some ideas are better than others, and some consequences are bigger than others, so heeding randomness doesn't mean merely acting on a whim.

As much as I enjoyed the flying back then, I wound up taking better-paying work as an economist. I moved out of the area. But, having learned my lesson once, I was able to easily reconstitute the helicopter gig as a weekend thing. I found that tourism, like a rubber band, can really stretch or contract to suit your situation. I've since met musicians, photographers, cooks, casino dealers, boat captains, scuba instructors, restaurant servers, and tour guides who have, at various times, played full-time and part-time cards in tourist settings. This sort of flexibly can really spoil you, but I guess you're not really spoiled if you're thankful for it.

Most people I've known in the tourism sector have, indeed, been thankful to be part of the action. Consequently, over the decades I've heard hundreds of "how I got started" stories from tourism pros all over the Pacific, including more than a few in Saipan.

DIAGNOSING

From Page 14

be a psychic than a doctor," Arthur Caplan, a medical ethicist at New York University, told The Huffington Post.

For the record, each of the 2016 nominees has gotten a clean bill of health. Clinton's personal physician, Lisa Bardack, attested, "She is in excellent physical condition and fit to serve as president of the United States." Trump's doctor, Harold Bornstein, was unusually expansive, asserting that Trump would be "the healthiest individual ever elected to the presidency."

Maybe these claims are not to be taken at face value. But any lingering suspicions about whether to believe them are more the result of distrust of the candidates than tangible evidence about their health.

Which brings us to the simple reality: There is plenty of information to reach conclusions about Clinton's judgment and Trump's self-control without doing diagnostic tests from afar. If Clinton made bad decisions about Benghazi or her email, the absence of brain damage is cold comfort. If Trump has a soft spot for Vladimir Putin or a distorted impression of Mexican immigrants, it's not a great relief to know he doesn't have dementia.

What's disturbing about the two is not what we don't know from medical exams but what we do know from their public records and conduct. For those conditions, alas, medicine has no cure.

©2016 *Chicago Tribune*

PEARLY

From Page 14

Obligations: We clap our hands on the so-called economic upswing then turn around with nervous laughter as we add up piles of deficits while sinking in deficit spending. It's a nerve-racking sight the eggheads brave with honky dory smiles instantly dimmed by the thought of bankruptcy. Did you people see this phenomenon or was it ignored out of convenience?

The NMI owes the old retirement program some $779 million; some $60 million for land compensation, nearly $38 million to CUC, millions more for CDA, and other unpaid obligations muddling through deficit spending. Each quick glance at the mountain of deficit turns thunderous handclaps into fainted handclasp drained of confidence. Call it reality check!

RO BS: A recent news story says some 70 percent of water produced by CUC is leaked into the ground all over. Its answer to fix the mess isn't fixing water pipe leaks. It's the political agenda to implement the reverse osmosis system or RO.

Two comical issues jump out of this asinine proposal: 1). Use the RO to pump more water into leaky pipes across the island so it goes underground rather than homes and businesses. 2). Use expensive RO water to flush our toilets (if water ever reaches our homes). Where has common sense gone, people?

In the first place, CUC is clueless how much it would charge (mean and normal rate) for RO water in addition to saddling consumers with some $160 million in funds for water that would end up underground. Use of common sense (no need logic in this instance) would tell the eggheads that the problem is in the 70 percent pipe leaks that never reach its intended ratepayers. Is this too hard an issue to understand?

Need to lose weight?

By RUSS MASON
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Russ Mason, M.S., wrote for a medical journal, "Alternative & Complementary Therapies," for eight years. He interviewed dozens of doctors who had much to share about unconventional treatment options. These included Tibetan medicine, Chinese medicine, botanicals, and treating stroke victims with hyperbaric oxygen.

It's no secret that many of our locals are grossly overweight and need to slim down. It's not easy to do.

I don't mean to single out the Chamorro people or other islanders, but if you look around, they are fatter than most others. You rarely see a fat Chinese person, or a Filipino, or even an American (former Attorney General, Edward Buckingham, was an exception).

Being fat wouldn't be so bad, except that it contributes to a broad spectrum of disease, primarily diabetes, heart disease and (most likely) cancer.

American Samoa takes the prize for the fattest island people, but recent research has shown that people on American Samoa have a "fat gene;" that is, a genetic disposition to becoming obese.

You may remember the wonderful Hawaiian singer, Israel Kamakawiwo'ole, who sang "Somewhere Over the Rainbow/What a Wonderful World" with his ukulele. He was of American Samoan ancestry.

"Throughout his life, Kamakawiwo'ole was morbidly obese and at one point weighed 757 pounds. He endured several hospitalizations because of health problems caused by his weight. Beset with respiratory, heart, and other medical problems, he died at the age of 38 on June 26, 1997." (Source: WikiPedia).

Although I know of no locals in the "700 club" many are still fat, and this needs to be addressed. It's a matter of life and death, truly.

Today I will share with you some tips on how to get rid of the excess baggage, and this will not only improve your overall health, but you will feel better. You'll have more pep too.

I write this because my deep concern for our beautiful islanders; they are killing themselves by the amount they eat and drink.

Much has been written about the benefits of exercise, and it certainly is beneficial. But it's not the best way to shed the flab.

Eat less

That's the secret. If you want to start dropping excess weight, eating less is essential.

The notion that each person needs three meals a day is outdated, especially for people who are overweight. The fat they carry is an excellent source of energy, and will break down if the body can get into "survival mode."

The best way to accomplish weight loss is to eat only one meal per day, preferably breakfast or lunch. Eat nothing after 6pm (You may drink all the water you like, and have any other sugar-free beverage, such as tea or coffee. Do not drink any "diet" beverages either).

How it works

When you eat food, your body spends the next 3 to 6 hours breaking down the nutrients and then sending them out to the bloodstream. At the 12-hour mark, the body switches into "survival mode" because no more nutrients are available. As a result, the body begins to break down fat for energy, and this is good.

If you can go an entire day—24 hours—without food, your "survival mode" will shift into high gear and the fat will begin to disappear. You won't die, and you won't starve, but yes, you will be hungry. When that happens, drink a big glass of water; it will fill you up and it will temporarily block the hunger cravings.

It takes a strong-willed person to do this, but it's not impossible. I dropped 30 pounds this way, and I have kept it off.

It's important to state that, this is a permanent change—once you achieve your weight goal. It may take some months, but after you lose all that weight, you can't go back to your old unhealthy eating habits. Big mistake! No, this new diet is for life: one meal per day, and no snacking at parties.

You might think that eating fresh vegetables, such as celery, carrots, or lettuce is OK. This is incorrect, because it starts the cycle of digestion all over again, and you won't lose an ounce.

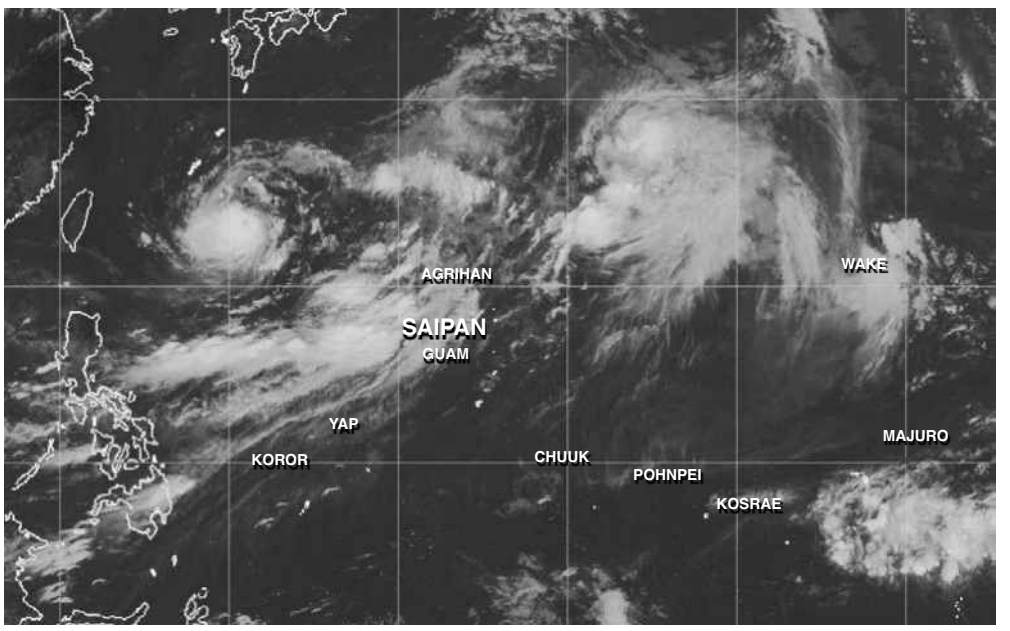
See NEED on Page 17

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼78°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:24 AM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2016

WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC BETWEEN EQUATOR AND 25N FROM 130E TO 180.

PGUA Doppler weather radar shows almost no showers within the Marianas waters this morning. The VAD wind profile reveals south winds of 7 to 12 knots through the lowest 4 thousand feet of the air. The weather balloon from last night shows much stronger winds which have been weakening, with ASCAT showing 10 knot winds and a surface ridge approaching.Lighter winds and more sun will allow for the possibility of island convection. The Non-hydrostatic mesoscale model shows that it expects this to happen today and Friday at least, so went ahead and added a mostly cloudy spot over Guam each afternoon along with a few hours of scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Partly cloudy	80 / 87 °F
Palau	Partly cloudy	81 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly cloudy	79 / 88 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	79 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Afternoon clouds	77 / 89
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	81 / 87 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	83 / 87 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Mostly sunny	53 / 57 °F
Beijing	Sunny	58 / 82 °F
Hong Kong	Afternoon clouds	78 / 92 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	73 / 81 °F
London	Partly cloudy	62 / 76 °F
Los Angeles	Morning clouds	63 / 78 °F
Manila	Partly sunny	80 / 87 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	41 / 55 °F
Miami	Partly sunny	81 / 89 °F
New York	Partly cloudy	77 / 91 °F
Osaka	Showers	75 / 93 °F
Paris	Sunny	70 / 92 °F
Pusan	Showers	76 / 87 °F
Rome	Sunny	64 / 92 °F
Salem	Sunny	61 / 97 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	58 / 68 °F
Seoul	Morning clouds	70 / 81 °F
Tokyo	Morning clouds	75 / 87 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	74 / 93 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
12:56 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.86 Feet
8:25 AM	LOW TIDE	0.02 Feet
3:25 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.58 Feet
8:31 PM	LOW TIDE	1.08 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:04 AM	6:33 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	12:13 AM	1:19 PM
Saturday	1:07 AM	2:17 PM
Sunday	2:03 AM	3:12 PM
Monday	2:59 AM	4:04 PM
Tuesday	3:54 AM	4:54 PM

NEWS DESK

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
OZ6063	5:15pm	8:35pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ6053	10:35am	4:05pm	4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Your plan—Version 1

We now have a full slate of political candidates for this November election. Some are returning legislators, other are former legislators who want to try their lucks again, and still others are newbies. Never been touched. For the current legislators, I ask what have you accomplished that makes you want to continue as a legislator? "Crackerjack legislation?" What is that? Crackerjack legislation is a bill or resolution which does not do anything to the economy of the CNMI.

For example, a bill or resolution instructing the CNMI, government or business, to pay its employees on time. Another example is the resolution, which appropriates money for the ship *Luta*, and extended to others. The obvious error here is that a resolution is simply a document expressing a legislative concern, not appropriating money. Standard legislative procedure. Never mind the Roberts Rule of Order. To appropriate money, a legislator introduces a bill, a special kind of bill—it is called an appropriations bill, not a resolution. You want to honor Elvis Presley, do it via resolution. Of all the legislative procedure seminars that I sat in, the difference between a bill and a resolution are defined quite specifically. The last seminar I sat in was that held for the in-coming Congress of Micronesia members. Dr. Meller of the University of Hawaii, was the head of the seminar. Some members of the Mariana Islands District Legislature were also trained in legislative procedures at East-West Center back in the 1970s. Perhaps, the CNMI Legislature could negotiate or invite the University of Hawaii East-West Center for a special seminar in legislative procedures. I'm sure the university would be very happy to do that. The trainers have been here before. So, after all this suggestions, I ask again, what did you accomplish during your previous tenure as legislator?

And you're running again. What do you have in mind to introduce? Put aside the Best Sunshine money for a moment, and think. What else could you do? Other investors—this time no tax incentive. Our government needs money, and that from Best Sunshine is simply not enough for all the things our government wants to do. Our government has goals and objectives. Split the two into three parts short-term objectives, mid-term objectives, and long-term objectives. Plug those objectives with your plans and ideas and hopes. What, then, is your individual plan? Your plan? Your idea for the party's platform? How would you help Tinian and Rota? Their struggling infrastructure, specifically water pipes, the sewer pipes, and electricity-the high tension wires, the telephone poles, the up-transformers and the dropdown transformers, and their roads, and salary for the employees-CNMI and municipal? Would you help their delegations? Where

See YOUR PLAN on Page 18

NEED

From Page 15

As Dr. Tony Stearns has often said, eat all the vegetables you like—they won't cause any weight gain. But the trick is to eat the vegetables with your meal, not as a snack.

Some weight loss aids

There are two health products I use every day. I call them "fat blockers" and "starch blockers." The real name for the fat blockers are Chitosan, or Liposan—which absorbs fats in the digestive tract and then carry them out of the body, unabsorbed.

Starch blockers are known as "Phase 2" and they are made from white kidney beans. They are especially helpful if you are eating rice, noodles, bread, or anything else starchy—even corn. They will help to prevent the starches from entering your bloodstream and help to keep you fat-free.

Although these products are not available locally, you can certainly find them on the Internet. If you're serious about shedding some flab, they can help greatly.

Cut out most sugar

A piece of chocolate, or a can of Coke, won't kill you, nor will a slice of birthday cake. What will negatively impact your health and weight-loss regimen is the amount of sugar you take in. This also includes alcohol, which converts to sugar in the digestive tract.

If you truly want to slim down, avoid anything with sugar, especially soft drinks. If you're thirsty, drink water. If you want something tastier, then add a squeeze of lemon to the water. This is a very healthful drink and tastes good. You can drink this any time, day or night.

The real problem

The real problem for those who want to lose weight is willpower, or lack of it. It's so easy to cave in to a buffet full of wonderful food, and then go back for seconds.

Whenever I see a fat person I think, "That person has no will-power."

You might think, "Well, I can pig out this one time." No. Sorry. Those days are over. If you're really determined to shed the flab, it takes courage and self-discipline. Learn to eat a healthy meal, once a day, and then stop.

If you can do it, the health benefits are enormous. If nothing else, you will significantly cut your risk of diabetes, heart disease, and (probably) cancer.

As a friend of mine once observed, "Nothing tastes as good as slim feels." He was right.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CAR RENTAL BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT CPA-SA-001-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management (CM) services for the replacement of the roof and miscellaneous improvements to the car rental building at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Project No. CPA-SA-001-13, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Scope of Work (SOW) includes overall construction management services for the duration of the project. Details are available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for qualification statements must be submitted in writing and mailed to Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio, Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, September 2, 2016.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Overall CM experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands – 30 points;
2. CM experience related to airport projects; – 30 points;
3. Level of proficiency in performing CM services promptly; and level of experience with the local and federal regulations and requirements; – 15 points;
4. The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of CM work experience, firm's ability to perform the services and the firm's professional integrity and competence – 15 points; and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable – 10 points.

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m. (CHST), FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified construction management firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Acting Executive Director

Date: August 10, 2016

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

CHCC-PSA-16-004

Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships For Success

Public Service Announcement - Availability of Federal Funds

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation: Community Guidance Center's Prevention Services Unit is pleased to announce the availability of federal funds, through the Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships For Success (SPF PFS) grant for eligible communities in the CNMI to apply. This project is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Details of the grant and funds available are listed below.

I. **Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships For Success (SPF PFS): FY2017 $425,000**
(Each applicant is able to apply for a sub grant award of up to, and not to exceed, $100,000)

The planning and implementation of this grant award will focus on four primary goals:

1. **Prevent or reduce consequences of underage drinking and adult problem drinking and drinking and driving with emphasis in persons ages 12-20**
2. **Reduce prescription drug misuse and abuse with emphasis on persons ages 12-25**
3. **Collaborate with other behavioral health prevention areas utilizing the Strategic Prevention Framework**
4. **Evaluate all activities**

The SPF PFS provides awarded communities with the opportunity to build and/or strengthen an effective and sustainable evidence-based prevention program that is responsive to the needs of the CNMI community. Community programs are required to implement evidence-based prevention programs focused on the following priorities that have been determined by Community Guidance Center's Prevention Services Unit:

1) **Underage Drinking and/or**
2) **Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse**

This grant award requires a Strategic Prevention Framework to help guide communities toward successful program management process following the five steps below:

1) Assessment: Accurately assess community problems, assets, and resources;
2) Capacity: Describe current capacity and/or plans to build capacity;
3) Planning: Develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan;
4) Implement: Identify the evidence-based program, policy, or practice to be implemented;
5) Evaluate: Process and impact evaluation through monitoring and documentation of program implementation.

In order to be eligible to apply, applicants must have been previously funded by the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) for at least two years or more, have not been defunded as a SPF SIG sub grant recipient, AND required to implement an evidence-based curriculum.

The Project Director will make the final recommendation in consultation and collaboration with the CGC Director on applications based off of proficiency areas aimed at sustaining substance abuse prevention outcomes. The grant application guidelines detail the information required.

All completed applications must be submitted to the CHCC: CGC Prevention Services Unit office on Saipan and the CGC personnel on Tinian and Rota no later than 3:30 p.m. on September 12, 2016.

Sub-Grant Application forms and guidelines may be obtained at the Prevention Services Unit Office at the CHCC: CGC on Gloria Drive, Navy Hill or the Substance Abuse Prevention offices on Rota and Tinian. For more information, please contact Mr. Christopher Maratita, Project Coordinator at 323-6560 or maratita89@gmail.com (Saipan); Mr. Keith Nabors, Prevention Coordinator (Tinian) at 433-6572 or tiniantyphoon@hotmail.com ; or Ms. Benedicta San Nicolas, Behavioral Health Coordinator (Rota) at 532-9461 or benedicta.sannicolas@gmail.com.

/s/ Esther L. Muna
CEO, CHCC

/s/ Nadine H. Sablan
CGC Director

Addressing slow health progress across Pacific

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—The Pacific is struggling to confront a widening gap with the rest of the world in terms of progressing health despite overall improvement across the region.

This was a clear message by Pacific Community Director General Dr. Colin Tukuitonga, to regional health professionals while delivering his keynote address at the Pasifika Medical Association 20th Anniversary Conference in Auckland, New Zealand, yesterday.

"If we draw attention to life expectancy, many countries in our region are displaying continued improvement. On the same note, a number of Pacific Island countries have experienced plateau over the last 20 years with no sustained improvement in life expectancy and this is cause for serious concern," Tukuitonga said.

"This has been the case in one of the larger Pacific Island countries for approximately 25 years for instance. Life expectancy for males and females have plateaued at 64 years and 69 years respectively due to premature adult mortality which is likely a result of the devastating impact of non-communicable diseases. In another Pacific country the figures are even more alarming with males expected to live to their mid-fifties and females around 60 years old," Tukuitonga added.

Referring to the 2014 Mortality Trends in Pacific Island States report produced by the Pacific Community (SPC), Tukuitonga noted that infant mortality as well as under five mortality in the region have also registered commendable improvement with most Pacific Island countries displaying a consistent decline.

However, the report also revealed instances of infant mortality rates and under five mortality rates at unacceptable levels compared to expected norms, with countries such as Papua New Guinea and Kiribati recording greater than 40 deaths per 1000 live births despite a consistent downward trend.

"We're making strides but if we are to achieve our healthy islands vision for the Pacific, we need strong leadership, accountability and investment. We also cannot ignore the basics which are essential for healthy and productive communities such as access to clean water which is still a problem for many small Pacific Island countries and territories," Tukuitonga said.

"It is also critical for us as health professionals to draw from each other's expertise and experiences and work together to improve the health and wellbeing of people in our region and I commend the Pasifika Medical Association for facilitating this space.

"The association is positioned to build leadership and strengthen public health capacity, encourage reporting and accountability which are vital for informing and strengthening health policies and strategies and can play an important role in supporting health advocacy across the Pacific," he said.

The Pasifika Medical Association is a network of more than 800 Pacific health professionals that are working collaboratively to strengthen Pacific health workforce capacity and capability as well as meet the health needs of Pacific people in the region. ***(PR)***

WE WILL NEVER FORGET
FIELD OF HEROES
15th Anniversary of September 11th
This community event will be an opportunity for family members to honor and support our Veterans/Military Personnel, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire and 1st Responders by purchasing a 3'x5' American flag ($20), in their honor.
This community event will be hosted on all 3 of the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan, Tinian and Rota.)
All proceed will go towards providing local support for our Veterans, Military Personnel, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire and 1st Responders in dealing with Post Traumatic Stress.
Dates to Remember:
Monday, September 5th - Sites set up
Tuesday, September 6th - Opening Ceremony
Sunday, September 11th - 9/11 Memorial Ceremony
Tuesday, September 13th - Closing Ceremony
Flags will be given to sponsored families after the closing ceremony.
Field of Heroes Site:
Saipan - CPA Airport Field
Tinian - Fiesta Grounds
Rota - Benjamin T. Manglona International Airport
FLAGS AND SHIRT ORDERS AND PAYMENTS CAN BE RECEIVED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
SAIPAN:
iShop at Fiesta Resort
iShop at Kanoa Resort
iShop at Paseo de Marianas
Shirley's Coffee Shop, Susupe
Shirley's Coffee Shop, Garapan
TINIAN:
Mayor's Office
ROTA:
Mayor's Office
FLAG = $20 each
EVENT SHIRT = $15 each
or GET (1) FLAG + (1) EVENT SHIRT
FOR ONLY $30
Tan Siu Lin Foundation
Tan Holdings
www.tanholdings.com

YOUR PLAN

From Page 17

would you get the money for all these, and more? Tinian and Rota are famous for farm produce. If the farmers need your help, would you help them? Where would you market their produce? What, then, would be your plan and platform contribution? What about a review of our Covenant and constitution? We have had three Con Cons, two of them successful presentation. If you could, which part of our Covenant would to amend? How would you do that? Would you improve the constitution? The special election, I mean? What about the land lease money, would you change the lease rate for the better for the next lease period, instead of the status quo?

Ask yourself as a favor, what would you do after the lease on Farallon de Medinilla (FDM) and Anatahan and Puerto Rico and North Field and West Field expired? FDM and Anatahan are pockmarked all over with American bombs. What about the USMC's plan to use Pagan to practice beach-storming, to be followed by live fire?

DPL is now looking at partitioning Pagan for residential and or agricultural homesteading. That places you in a quandary, between a rock and a hard place. What would you do? And the CW? It seems as if the CW issue is settling down for a while. How do you feel? think some of the CWs want to settle here. Good for the business but questionable on the capability of our infrastructure. What about availability for regular work? And, if you let them stay here and become island citizens or someday become U.S. citizens or IR of their American citizen children, then they would have to pay FICA and income tax, CUC user fee, CCHC fee, etc. You see, all these things I hear at gatherings, cookouts, Minachum Atdao, Kilili Beach, fast food restaurants, etc. But I don't hear from you. Would you come out on television and radio and talk about your plan and contribution to your party's platform? I would be on the other end of the wave and screen. I vote in Precinct 3.

Rudy M. Sablan
Garapan

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE
Amendment #02

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Vice-Chairman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the recessed Special Board Meeting on Monday, July 18, 2016 – 5:30 p.m., will resume on **Wednesday, August 31, 2016, 5:30 p.m. at the NMHC's Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Adoption of Minutes - February 10, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
  - February 25, 2016 Special Board Meeting Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- a. Properties for Sale
- b. Personnel Matters
- c. FY 2015 Audit

IV. OLD BUSINESS
- a. Garapan Annex
- b. RD Update
- c. Adoption of the Amendments to the Section 8 Admin Plan

V. NEW BUSINESS
- a. Loan Assistance
- b. NMHC Procurement Regulations
- c. Travel Policy
- d. Reprogramming Authority

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. OTHER MATTERS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **IGNACIO L. PEREZ**
Vice-Chairman of the Board

MCS prepares to commemorate 15th anniversary of 9/11

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School Student Council vice president Jaqueline P. Doctor prepares order forms for "We Will Never Forget–Field of Heroes" flags.

Although weeks away, Mount Carmel School students have already begun preparing to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attack of Sept. 11, 2001. The students are joining forces with other community organizations participating in "We Will Never Forget—Field of Heroes" activities coordinated by the Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

Catherine Attao-Toves, a parent of MCS students, reached out to the school on behalf of the foundation, to join the activities. As she said about the activities planned, this will allow everyone "to come together in solidarity to remember those who perished, and to honor our heroes that responded to save many lives during the 9/11 attack and who are still involved in our fight against terrorism."

For the school's Student Council officers, who are taking the lead in coordinating student participation in activities, the anniversary hits close to home as all of them were born right before 9/11. As council president Zeno Deleon Guerrero puts it, "This is near and dear to my heart because I have so many family and friends that have served and are currently serving." He added, "Given how much they've sacrificed, we need to show them our support."

According to council moderator You Jin Jun students will be conducting awareness activities on campus and preparing appreciation gifts and messages for men and women serving in the armed forces. Students will also help set up for and run the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport field. ***(PR)***

'Your Humanities Half-Hour' to discuss workforce issues

Northern Marianas College interim president David Attao, CNMI Department of Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero, and Northern Marianas Trades Institute Workforce Development director Ross Manglona will be featured this Sunday on "Your Humanities Half-Hour."

Attao

The show will cover the highlights of the presentation "Growing the Right Workforce with Limited Resources" made at this year's Pacific Circle Consortium on Saipan and the workforce development history of the CNMI. This will include the challenges that the CNMI faces as the U.S. federal government implements U.S. Public Law 110-229 in the CNMI that would transition and reduce the number of non U.S. eligible workers in the area. The discussion also covers what the Northern Marianas College and other providers, including the CNMI Department of Labor, has done to plan and prepare for such transition, as well as what financial aid is available for workers interested in earning their degree or certification.

"Your Humanities Half-Hour" is sponsored by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and airs each Sunday from 2pm to 2:30pm on Power 99 (97.9FM) with host Catherine Perry Harris. ***(PR)***

NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

NMPASI hereby seeks comments and/or suggestions from the community on how to improve upon its proposed Statement of Goals & Priorities for fiscal year 2017 as follows:

Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)
STATEMENT OF GOALS AND PRIORITIES
(FY 2017)

(CLIENT/COMMUNITY SERVICES)

GOAL 1: To provide legally-based advocacy services on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families in the CNMI.

- **Priority 1.1:** Facilitate appropriate advocacy and provide direct representation for eligible individuals with disabilities in the community (at least one more than the previous fiscal year)
- **Priority 1.2:** Facilitate sufficient technical assistance to individuals with disabilities, family members of individuals with disabilities and other members of the general community at large.
- **Priority 1.3:** Facilitate appropriate representation for un/undeserved individuals with disabilities (including but not limited to those living in institutions or other housing facilities).

GOAL 2: To advance the understanding of and appreciation for Protection and Advocacy services and disability-related issues in the CNMI.

- **Priority 2.1:** Facilitate opportunities for the community to engage in learning about disability-related issues.
- **Priority 2.2:** Promote the understanding of local and federal disability laws.
- **Priority 2.3:** Foster local capacity in self-advocacy for individuals with disabilities.

(ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS)

GOAL 3: To enhance the quality of protection & advocacy services and the efficiency of the organization's operations.

- **Priority 3.1:** Maintain an efficient, effective and legally –compliant administrative operation.
- **Priority 3.2:** Maintain an effective, diverse and knowledgeable staff and board of directors.
- **Priority 3.3:** Ensure sufficient and sustainable funding in support of organization's mission.

For anything further, please feel free to contact the NMPASI Office at (670) 235-7273/4 (tel.) 235-7275 (fax) (tty) or contact us on-line at www.nmpasi.org.

*NMPASI, a local non-profit organization, administers grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD), and the Human Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the U.S. Department of Education (DOE)/Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), and the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council
P.O. Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 322-6537 • Fax: (670) 322-6548
TTY: (670) 322-6449 • E-Mail: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 2016 Third General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, August 31, 2016 at the Pacific Islands Club-Charley's Cabaret from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda of August 31, 2016
IV. Review and Adoption of Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2016
V. Reports
a. SRC Chairperson
b. Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee Chairperson
c. Employment/Marketing Committee Chairperson
d. Transition/Assistive Technology Committee Chairperson
e. Transportation/Housing/Advocacy Committee Chairperson
f. OVR Director
VI. Old Business
VII. New Business
a. Transition Mini Conference (September 12 & 14, 2016)
b. Take Your Legislator to Work Campaign (October 2016)
c. Presentation by the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority
VIII. Consumer Forum
IX. Miscellaneous/Announcement
a. Next Meeting: September 2016 - Time and location TBA
X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as a large print or sign language interpreter, are asked to call Elvira Seman at 322-6537/38 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) three days before the meeting.

/s/ PAMELA C. SABLAN
Chairperson

Publication of this notice is paid for by Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Administration for Community Living (ACL).

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(*Specify Type)
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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-020

ROTA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Rota Water Supply Project, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the demolition of existing bldg. structure, fence, pipes, valves, including appurtenances, installation of new 6-inch, 8-inch, & 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, construction of new three wells bldg., chlorination building, booster pump building, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on August 25, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-16-020, Rota Water Supply Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 29, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, CUC Chief Engineer-Water/Wastewater-john.riegel@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant– marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-022

LIFT STATION RENOVATION PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Lift Station Renovation Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of the renovation and upgrade of the S-6, S-10, SR-1, and A-7 Sewer Lift Stations.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of wet wells, valve vaults, a bar screen and flow monitor vault, removal of existing pumps, pipes, fittings and appurtenances, installation of new pumps, guide rails, control panels, pipes and fittings, installation of a new fence and gate, the installation and operation of a temporary wastewater bypass system, and other related work.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 30, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.7, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

ONE (1) original and FIVE (5) hard copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-022, Lift Station Renovation"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 16, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.
Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 1, 2016** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, W/WW Chief Engineer via email address-john.riegel@cucgov.org, Nicolette Villagomez , W/WW Junior Engineer via email address-nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org, Birhen Martinez, W/WW Senior Engineer via email address-birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-021

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE POWER POLES

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from FEMA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **$100.00** for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-16-021, Supply & Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles"* to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 21, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director's approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 6, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joseph Crisostomo, CUC Power Division, Purchasing Technician via email address- joe.crisostomo@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-021

KAGMAN ROAD ANTI-SKID, SAIPAN, CNMI

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Kagman Road Anti-Skid, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after August 12, 2016 at Departmnet of Public works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must b e made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Workat the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Deaprtment of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capital Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 30, 2016**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 8, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the proepective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-021"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 13, 2016. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **September 13, 2016,** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 13, 2016** and must be received no later than **September 22, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **September 25, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on **September 13, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred Dollars (US$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Committing to support Heritage Month festivities

September is Cultural Heritage Month and several activities will be staged to showcase the islands' unique culture and tradition.

In partnership with the Cultural Heritage Month Steering Committee, Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team will assist with the various festivities planned throughout September. This is part of the company's sustained commitment to support and strengthen the islands' culture and tradition.

"We want to commend the CSR team of Best Sunshine for playing a key role in promoting our cultural heritage for the month of September. Understanding our way of life and teaching it to younger generations is essential to the preservation of the unique identity of the Chamorro and Carolinian people," Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog jointly said in a statement.

"We need to continue sharing our culture everyday as a reminder of how far we've come together as a people," they added.

For the next few weeks, the BSI-CSR team will be working very closely with the Cultural Heritage Month steering committee to ensure that the festivities are a representation of the Chamorro and Carolinian cultures.

"We are very excited to be a part of this celebration of our culture. It's only the beginning. We plan to continue focusing efforts of our CSR work in preserving culture in our islands," Best Sunshine CSR executive director Geri Dela Cruz separately said.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility staff work in fixing the roof of the Carolinian Utt in this file photo.

Creating decors from coconut fronds is one the islands' enduring tradition. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On Sept. 24, Best Sunshine will be providing staffing and games for this year's CHM Family Fun Day.

Among the activities lined up include tug-of-war competition, obstacle course that incorporates traditional coconut husking, aiding the canoe race, assisting with side games, and providing perpetual trophies for these events. Special gift baskets containing local goodies will also be provided as awards for kids.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Best Sunshine CSR representative Nate Ada sets up traditional floral arrangement at one of the BSI supported events.

On Sept. 26-29, Best Sunshine CSR staff will also be facilitating and assisting with the CHM Fishing Competition.

The competition is divided into three segments: Talaya throwing competition, panek competition, and handline competition. The competition will be split into two age divisions: 17 years of age and below and 18 years of age and above. All those interested in learning or showcasing their skills are encouraged to join their appropriate age division.

Torres and Hocog jointly shared, "We want to commend the CSR team of Best Sunshine for playing a key role in promoting our cultural heritage for the month of September. Understanding our way of life and teaching it to younger generations is essential to the preservation of the unique identity of the Chamorro and Carolinian people. We need to continue sharing our culture everyday as a reminder of how far we've come together as a people." (***PR***)

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIREFIGHTING (ARFF) BUILDING RENOVATIONS
Project No. CPA-TA-003-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for renovations to the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) Building at the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for qualification statements must be submitted in writing and mailed to Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio, Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, September 9, 2016.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (35 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – (25 points);
3. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
4. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time - (15 points); and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m. (CHST), FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Acting Executive Director

Date: August 10, 2016

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-018-16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) invites interested insurance brokers, licensed to conduct business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to submit proposals for providing Insurance Brokerage Services singularly or in partnership with others.

The Proposal Package and specifications is available for pick-up beginning **August 12, 2016** at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "**Proposal for Insurance Brokerage Services, Project No. CPA-RFP-018-16.**" One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, September 2nd, 2016**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the aforementioned location.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
MULTI YEAR FINANCIAL AND
COMPLIANCE AUDIT SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CPA-RFP-019-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed cost proposal for auditing services for a period of three (3) fiscal years. The location and scope of work package is available beginning August 12, 2016 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interested proposers must submit one original and three copies of the sealed proposal. Only proposals from U.S. nationally recognized firms will be accepted.

The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. LOCAL TIME, September 02, 2016, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Acting Executive Director

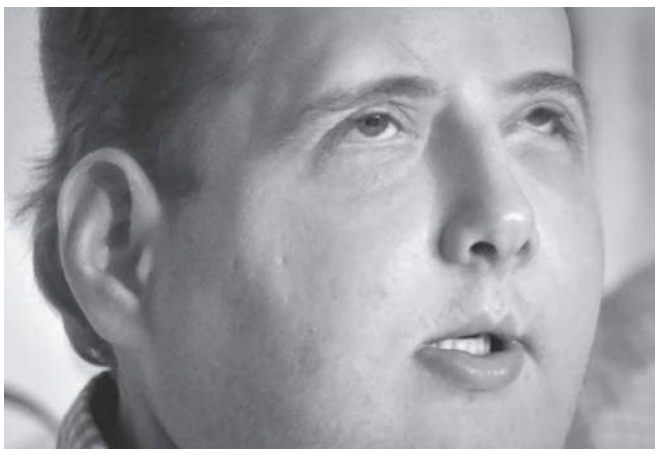
Nation

Burned firefighter feels normal again after face transplant

NEW YORK (AP)—A Mississippi firefighter who received the world's most extensive face transplant after a burning building collapsed on him said Wednesday that he feels like "a normal guy" for the first time in 15 years.

Patrick Hardison, 42, said he can now eat, see, hear and breathe normally, thanks to last year's surgery. He has a full head of hair and hits the gym twice a week.

"Before the transplant, every day I had to wake up and get myself motivated to face the world," Hardison told reporters at NYU Langone Medical Center. "Now I don't worry about people pointing and staring or kids running away crying. . I'm happy."



AP

Former Mississippi firefighter Patrick Hardison, 42, center, speaks during a press conference marking one year after his face transplant surgery, Wednesday Aug. 24, 2016, at New York University Langone Medical Center in New York.

Hardison was a volunteer firefighter in Senatobia, Mississippi, when a building collapsed on him in 2001. He had 71 reconstructive surgeries before the transplant.

While there have been nearly 40 face transplant surgeries since 2005, Hardison's was the first to include a scalp and functioning eyelids. Doctors have since fixed up some features and removed his breathing and feeding tubes.

Hardison has no scars on his face, and although he resembles his old self, some of his features are different. His eyes are smaller and his face is rounder, but he still has sandy brown hair.

"I don't get up and look in the mirror and focus on that," he said. "I get up and just go along with my day."

The divorced father of five said one of the best moments of his life was seeing his children for the first time after the August 2015 surgery. Four of his children attended the news conference.

His 21-year-old daughter, Alison, said she cried after seeing him because she was so relieved.

"I walked into the room and I was just speechless," she said. "He gave me a hug and our cheeks touched, and his cheeks were kind of warm, and that was something I hadn't felt in 14 years."

She said her father "wasn't normal on the inside" before the surgery.

"He was very unhappy," Alison Hardison said. "Now he's happy with himself and happy with life."

Patrick Hardison can finally drive and live independently thanks to his new field of vision. Previously, he could see only through "pinholes" because doctors had sewed his eyelids partially shut to protect his eyes, he said.

Eduardo Rodriguez, chairman of Langone's plastic surgery department, said Hardison has not had any issues with transplant rejection, which is due to his medications, his children and his strength.

"He's a remarkable individual," Rodriguez said.

The surgery is estimated to cost about $1 million, according to NYU, but the hospital covered the cost. Rodriguez was recently awarded $2.5 million from the Defense Department to continue face transplant research.

Hardison said he hopes to meet this fall with the family of his donor, a 26-year-old artist who died in a bike accident in Brooklyn.

Man gets 40 years for pouring scalding water on gay couple

ATLANTA (AP)—A judge sentenced a Georgia man to 40 years in prison Wednesday for throwing scalding water on a gay couple sleeping in an apartment, leaving them with severe burns that required surgery.

Jurors deliberated for about 90 minutes before finding Martin Blackwell, 48, guilty of eight counts of aggravated battery and two counts of aggravated assault in the February attack on Anthony Gooden and Marquez Tolbert.

Fulton County Superior Court Judge Henry Newkirk said the evidence was overwhelming and that Blackwell had behaved in a soulless and malicious way. He noted that it "takes a long time" for a pot of water to boil.

"You had so many outs where the voice of reason could have taken over," the judge told Blackwell, who had faced up to 80 years in prison.

Prosecutors said it was a vicious, premeditated attack. Tolbert testified that after pouring hot water on them, Blackwell grabbed him as he jumped and screamed in pain and told him: "Get out of my house with all that gay."

Georgia doesn't have a hate crime law. The FBI said in March that it had opened a hate crime investigation, but spokesman Kevin Rowson said Wednesday that the agency isn't commenting on that probe.

Blackwell's defense attorney acknowledged that he poured water on the pair, but asked jurors to find that it was reckless conduct.

"It's not about hate. It's about old-school culture, old-school thinking," Monique Walker told the jury.

The defense didn't call any witnesses and didn't present any evidence. Blackwell, who remained stoic throughout the trial, did not take the stand. He showed no reaction when the verdict was read.

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of August 24, 2016

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS AS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Saipan Globe International, Ltd.	7/14/2016 SSWCH-2016-X-039, AMENDMENT 2016-1	Additional 3 bores	San Roque, Saipan	Shoreline, Wetland, Coastal Hazards	Approved, 7/18/2016
2. Napu Outrigger Canoe	7/15/2016 SS/LR-2016-X-066	Ocean Sports Competition	Carolinian Utt, Garapan	Shoreline, Lagoon &	Approved, 7/15/2016*
3. USA Fanter Corp.,Ltd.	7/20/2016 SCH/W-2016-X-067	Waterline Replacement & Connection	Kanat Tabla & Dandan	Wetlands, Coastal Hazards	Approved, 7/22/2016*
4. Saipan Comfort Homes, LLC	7/22/2016 SWm-2016-X-068	NMC Stormwater Drainage System Improvements	As Terlaje	Wetlands & Mangroves	Approved, 7/28/2016*
5. Marianas Christian Church, Inc.	7/12/2016 SW-2016-X-068	Land Clearing, Construction of New 2-Story Church w/Social Hall, Office and Residential Unit	Susupe, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangroves	Under Review*
6. IT&E	8/04/2016 S/T/RWSPIm-99-X-247 Amendment 2016-3	Placement of Micro Duct & Fiber Optic Cables	Chalan Laulau to NMC	Wetlands, Shorelines & Ports & Industrial	Approved, 8/18/2016
7. IT&E	8/04/2016 SWm-2016-X-070	Install & Lay New Telephone Lines	Santa Lourdes, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangroves	Approved, 8/18/2016*
8. Good Day Coordinating, Inc.	8/15/2016 SS/LR/CHm-2016-X-071	Filming and Photography	Saipan Beaches	Shoreline, Lagoon & Reef, Coastal Hazards	Approved, 8/17/2016
9. Geotesting, Inc.	8/06/2016 SS8PI-2016-X-072	Soil Investigation	Lower Base, Saipan	Shoreline, Ports & Industrial	Approved, 8/18/2016*
10. Castle Project (CNMI), LLC	8/5/2016 SMS-96-X-376, Amendment 2016-1	Water & Power Connection To CUC Mainline	Tanapag, Saipan	Major Siting	Approved, 8/18/2016
11. IT&E	8/4/2016 ST/RWSPIm-99-X-247 Amendment 2016-4	Placement of Micro Duct & Fiber Optic Cables	Chalan Laulau to Mayor's Office, Beach Road & Capitol Hill (Government Offices)	Wetlands, Shorelines, Ports & Industrial	Under Review

§15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulation requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

ACROSS THE NATION

Texas college students rally against gun law with sex toys

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Hundreds of University of Texas students waved sex toys at a campus rally during the first day of classes, protesting a new state law that allows concealed handguns in college classrooms, buildings and dorms. Organizers said the sex toys were used Wednesday to mock what they consider an absurd notion that guns should be allowed in academic settings. The law took effect Aug. 1. Students and faculty at the Austin campus fiercely opposed allowing license holders to carry their concealed handguns to class. One prominent dean left the school after the law passed in 2015. Several faculty members attended the rally. Organizers said they distributed more than 4,500 free sex toys.

Alaska roadkill thieves target moose meant for charity

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Thieves coming across dead moose on Alaska roads are stealing the carcasses, making away with hundreds of pounds of meat that normally goes to a program run by state troopers that gives it to the needy and others willing to butcher the carcasses, officials said Wednesday. Two moose killed recently by cars or trucks were set to be picked up by the trooper-sponsored program that alerts the Alaska Moose Federation so carcasses can be quickly delivered to recipients on a state troopers' list of people who want them. But federation drivers could not find the two dead moose in July and August when they went to roadkill sites between Anchorage and Denali National Park, said the federation's director, Don Dyer.

Yellowstone tourists face detour for fire but landmarks open

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP)—Some tourists heading to Yellowstone National Park during the busy summer season are facing an hour-long detour Wednesday as a wildfire in neighboring Grand Teton National Park kept a highway closed. Major tourist areas in both parks are open as the National Park Service holds events to celebrate its 100th anniversary this week. A route leading into Yellowstone's South Entrance was shut down, so visitors coming from the south through Wyoming had to detour into Idaho. Julie Guardado of Sacramento, California, and her boyfriend were visiting Yellowstone as part of a cross-country trip but decided to leave a day early over fears of more road closures.

Asia

Quake damages scores of Myanmar's heritage Bagan temples

BAGAN, Myanmar (AP)—It was a time of conquest and conversions. Above all, it was a time of construction, on a scale never seen before. Over 250 years, from the 11th century onwards, the rulers of Bagan built more than 10,000 magnificent religious monuments.

The stupas, temples and monasteries became the defining emblems of Bagan, the capital of the Pagan (pronounced PUH'-gahn) empire that ruled Myanmar from roughly 1044 to 1287.

On Wednesday, scores of the monuments - of which only about 2,200 remain—were damaged in a powerful 6.8 magnitude earthquake. Yet much of what fell was modern material, sanctioned by Myanmar's former army rulers who had put top priority on restoring the temples with little regard for the original architectural styles.

King Anawratha, who unified the country formerly known as Burma, and his successors built the temples in a frenzy, believing they would gain spiritual merit. Still, piety didn't stop them from making war or killing to gain power.

One king, Narathu, slew his father, elder brother, and one of his wives. He also killed the architect of the magnificent Dhammayangi temple so he couldn't repeat the feat, and chopped off the hands of sloppy workmen.

As more and more monuments rose in the dusty plains of central Myanmar, Bagan became the political, economic and cultural center of the empire, promoting religious as well as secular studies, including philosophy, astrology, medicine, law and Pali, the language of Buddhist scriptures. The city became an educational destination for monks from as far away as India, Sri Lanka and Cambodia.

But Bagan declined as rapidly as it rose.

It was abandoned around 1287 for reasons not entirely clear, and the city - once home to up to 200,000 people—was reduced to the status of a small town. Some historical accounts cite Mongol invasions but others dispute that, saying the Mongol armies may not have reached the city.

But the dead city left a legacy that future generations are benefiting from.

Bagan covers more than 80 square kilometers (32 square miles) of a flat plain. It is the country's biggest tourist attraction, and along with Cambodia's Angkor Wat and Indonesia's Borobudur temple, the temples of Bagan are considered one of Southeast Asia's major historical landmarks.

Yet unlike those Southeast Asian archaeological cousins, Bagan is not listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO due to a tangled modern tale of neglect followed by a fervid if misguided effort at renovation in the 1990s, partly to restore damage from a 1975 earthquake.

North Korea's Kim praises submarine launch test as a success

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said Thursday that his country had achieved the "success of all successes" in launching a missile from a submarine, saying it effectively gave the country a fully equipped nuclear attack capability and put the U.S. mainland within striking distance.

Kim's comments, carried by Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency, came a day after South Korean officials said a ballistic missile fired from a North Korean submarine was tracked flying about 500 kilometers (310 miles), the longest distance achieved by the North for such a weapon.

North Korea already has a variety of land-based missiles that can hit South Korea and Japan, including U.S. military bases in those countries. But its development of reliable submarine-launched missiles would add a weapon that is harder to detect before launch.

The KCNA said Kim watched from an observation post as the test-firing happened, which the agency said was carried out without "any adverse impact" on neighboring countries.

The North's official Rodong Sinmun newspaper published several photos that showed the missile, with the name Pukguksong printed on its side, soaring into the sky, and Kim smiling and embracing with one of the North Korean officials accompanying him from what appeared to be an observation deck.

The KCNA quoted Kim as saying the successful test showed that North Korea had joined the "front ranks" of military powers fully equipped with nuclear attack capabilities. Kim also said it is undeniable that the U.S. mainland and key operational areas in the Pacific were within North Korea's striking distance.

"I do not guess what ridiculous remarks the U.S. and its followers will make about this test-fire, but I can say their rash acts will only precipitate their self-destruction," the KCNA quoted Kim as saying.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thai farmers launch (bee) sting operation to stop elephants

PANA, Thailand (AP)—To stop wild elephants from rampaging through their produce, farmers in Thailand put up electric fences, set off firecrackers and even switched their crops from pineapples to pumpkins, which the pachyderms don't relish much. Nothing worked, so the villagers decided on Plan Bee. In a pilot scheme run by the Thai Department of National Parks, farmers are deploying bees as a new line of defense, exploiting elephants' documented fear of bee stings. The idea to play on the phobia came out of Oxford University research and has been used successfully for several years in Africa. It's now gaining a toehold in Asia. The problem is quite severe in the eastern province of Chanthaburi, which has thick forests near farming communities that grow rice, cassava, pineapple and rubber.

Filipino fishermen find possibly world's biggest pearl

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A tourism official says a Filipino fisherman in western Palawan island has found possibly the world's biggest pearl, which he had hidden under a bed for 10 years as a lucky charm. Aileen Amurao, Puerto Princesa city's tourism officer and the fisherman's relative, said Thursday the man gave her the 34-kilogram (75-pound) pearl that's 2.2 feet (67 centimeters) long and 1 foot (30 centimeters) wide for safekeeping. She says she was shocked to learn from the internet that it could be the world's biggest. The fisherman, his father and brothers found the irregular-shaped pearl inside a giant clam that stuck to their boat's anchor when they sought refuge from a squall. The pearl is displayed in the city hall, and the fisherman will receive a reward from the local government.

World

Rescuers search for survivors in Italy quake that killed 247

AMATRICE, Italy (AP)—Rescue crews using bulldozers and their bare hands raced to dig out survivors Thursday from a strong earthquake that reduced three central Italian towns to rubble. The death toll rose to 247, but the number of dead and missing was uncertain given the thousands of vacationers in the area for summer's final days.

Aerial view of Amatrice in central Italy, Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016, as it appears after a magnitude 6 quake struck at 3:36 a.m. (0136 GMT) and was felt across a broad swath of central Italy, including Rome where residents of the capital felt a long swaying followed by aftershocks. AP

Residents wakened before dawn by the temblor emerged from their crumbled homes to find what they described as apocalyptic scenes "like Dante's Inferno," with entire blocks of buildings turned into piles of sand and rock, thick dust choking the air and a putrid smell of gas.

"The town isn't here anymore," said Sergio Pirozzi, the mayor of the hardest-hit town, Amatrice. "I believe the toll will rise."

The magnitude 6.2 quake struck at 3:36 a.m. on Wednesday and was felt across a broad swath of central Italy, including Rome, where residents woke to a long swaying followed by aftershocks. The temblor shook the Lazio region and Umbria and Le Marche on the Adriatic coast, a highly seismic area that has witnessed major quakes in the past and continued to shake early Thursday with aftershocks.

Dozens of people were pulled out alive by rescue teams and volunteers that poured in from around Italy.

In the evening, about 17 hours after the quake struck, firefighters pulled a 10-year-old girl alive from the rubble in Pescara del Tronto.

"You can hear something under here. Quiet, quiet," one rescue worker said, before soon urging her on: "Come on, Giulia, come on, Giulia."

Cheers broke out when she was pulled out.

And there were wails when bodies emerged.

"Unfortunately, 90 percent we pull out are dead, but some make it, that's why we are here," said Christian Bianchetti, a volunteer from Rieti who was working in devastated Amatrice where flood lights were set up so the rescue could continue through the night.

Premier Matteo Renzi visited the zone Wednesday, greeted rescue teams and survivors, and pledged that "No family, no city, no hamlet will be left behind." Italy's civil protection agency reported the death toll had risen to 247 early Thursday; at least 368 others were injured.

Worst affected were the tiny towns of Amatrice and Accumoli near Rieti, 100 kilometers (60 miles) northeast of Rome, and Pescara del Tronto, 25 kilometers further east. Italy's civil protection agency set up tent cities around each hamlet to accommodate the thousands of homeless. In Amatrice, the elderly and children spent the night inside a local sports facility.

Italy's health minister, Beatrice Lorenzin, visiting the devastated area, said many of the victims were children: The quake zone is a popular spot for Romans with second homes, and the population swells in August when most Italians take their summer holiday before school resumes.

The medieval center of Amatrice was devastated, with rescue crews digging by hand to get to trapped residents.

The birthplace of the famed spaghetti all' amatriciana bacon and tomato sauce, the city was full for this weekend's planned festival honoring its native dish. Guests filled its top Hotel Roma, famed for its amatriciana, where five bodies were pulled from the rubble before the operation was suspended when conditions became too dangerous late Wednesday. Among those killed was an 11-year-old boy who had initially shown signs of life.

Officials initially said about 70 guests were staying at the hotel, but later lowered the number to about 35, many of whom got out in time.

Carlo Cardinali, a local fire official taking part in the search efforts at the hotel, told Sky TG24 that about 10 guests were still missing.

Amatrice is made up of 69 hamlets that teams from around Italy were working to reach with sniffer dogs, earth movers and other heavy equipment. In the city center, rocks and metal tumbled onto the streets and dazed residents huddled in piazzas as more than 200 aftershocks jolted the region throughout the day, some as strong as magnitude 5.1.

"The whole ceiling fell but did not hit me," marveled resident Maria Gianni. "I just managed to put a pillow on my head and I wasn't hit, luckily, just slightly injured my leg."

Another woman, sitting in front of her destroyed home with a blanket over her shoulders, said she didn't know what had become of her loved ones.

"It was one of the most beautiful towns of Italy and now there's nothing left," she said, too distraught to give her name. "I don't know what we'll do."

Residents, civil protection workers and even priests dug with shovels, bulldozers and their bare hands to reach survivors. A steady column of dump trucks brought tons of twisted metal, rock and cement down the hill and onto the highway toward Rome, along with a handful of ambulances bringing the injured to Rome hospitals.

Italy's national blood drive association appealed for donations to Rieti's hospital.

Life & Style

'SNL' star Leslie Jones' personal site offline after hacking

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Leslie Jones, the black "Saturday Night Live" and "Ghostbusters" actress-comedian, is again the target of racist and sexist online attacks.

Jones' personal site was taken offline Wednesday after it appeared hackers posted explicit photos of Jones and her driver's license and passport. The hackers also appeared to have inserted a video of deceased Cincinnati Zoo gorilla Harambe and images of Jones posing with such stars as Rihanna, Kanye West and Kim Kardashian West.

AP

In this July 9, 2016 file photo, actress Leslie Jones arrives at the Los Angeles premiere of "Ghostbusters."

A spokesman for Jones didn't respond to messages Wednesday seeking comment. And Jones hasn't posted about the incident on social media.

Several celebrities supported Jones on social media Wednesday following the incident. "Ghostbusters" filmmaker Paul Feig called it an "absolute outrage," while "Girls" star Lena Dunham asked followers to "turn our anger at trolls into love for Leslie Jones and into strategies to protect all the heroines who don't deserve this (expletive)."

Jones' "SNL" cast mates also expressed outrage about the hacking. Aidy Bryant said she was "so angry, disgusted and sad about this racist violent assault on Jones." Taran Killam said the hackers are "the worst of humanity, where she is the best."

The celebs' online rallying wasn't enough for Rebecca Carroll, author of such books as "Saving The Race" and "Sugar In The Raw." She said people in positions of power need to "go deeper."

Pharrell to be honored by Clive Davis for songwriting

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Pharrell has a new reason to be "Happy."

Clive Davis is honoring the "Happy" and "Freedom" singer-songwriter with his Legend in Songwriting Award.

Pharrell is scheduled to receive the honor from the veteran music executive at the 12th annual Songs of Hope event on Sept. 15. The annual event benefits the City of Hope, a research and treatment center for cancer, diabetes and other life-threatening diseases in Duarte, California.

Other award recipients will include singer-songwriter Mike Posner and "The Jungle Book" and "Mother's Day" composer John Debney.

Burt Bacharach, Lukasz "Dr. Luke" Gottwald and Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds are among the previous winners of Davis' Legend in Songwriting Award.

Appeal seeks to overturn 'Blurred Lines' copyright verdict

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Attorneys for Robin Thicke and Pharrell Williams on Wednesday asked an appellate court to overturn a copyright infringement verdict against them over the 2013 hit song "Blurred Lines."

An opening brief filed with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeal contends the case should never have gone to trial and the verdict should be overturned, or a new trial ordered.

The case centered on whether Thicke and Williams copied the Marvin Gaye hit "Got to Give It Up" for their hit song, although jurors were only supposed to consider whether "Blurred Lines" improperly copied notes from Gaye's sheet music.

"What happened instead was a cascade of legal errors warranting this court's reversal or vacatur for new trial," the opening brief states.

Thicke and Williams' filing contends the judge presiding over a weeklong copyright infringement trial gave jurors several improper instructions.

The trial ended in March 2015 with jurors awarding Gaye's family more than $7 million. The verdict was later trimmed to $5.3 million.

Lawsuit filed over railing collapse at Snoop Dogg concert

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Lawyers representing 17 people injured when a railing collapsed at a Snoop Dogg and Wiz Khalifa concert in New Jersey have filed a lawsuit against the venue's operator and the performers claiming they didn't take enough precautions to ensure concertgoers would be safe.

The lawsuit, filed Wednesday in a Philadelphia court, doesn't specify what damages are being sought. But attorney Robert J. Mongeluzzi said his clients want to prevent future incidents and deserve monetary compensation. The plaintiffs include 14 concertgoers and three workers, including one who suffered a fractured spine, attorneys say.

A partition separating a lawn from a secondary stage set up at the rear of the seating section collapsed shortly after the show began Aug. 5 at Camden's BB&T Pavilion, causing people to fall roughly 10 feet onto the concrete below.

Authorities have said 42 people were hurt in the collapse, which occurred as the rappers were gesturing to fans to move toward the small stage. Lawyers say concertgoers were trampled and pinned to the ground, causing some to have broken bones, torn ligaments and tendons, loss of consciousness and emotional trauma.

"I can tell you there is no doubt there was a crowd surge based upon the setup of the lawn with no chairs and no aisles, lack of security ... and then the artists telling people to come forward," Mongeluzzi said. "That's the setup, and that's the failure."

'The Color Purple' lands Jennifer Holliday on Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Broadway's revival of "The Color Purple" has lured a real dream girl—Jennifer Holliday.

The Tony- and Grammy-winning singer takes over the role of Shug Avery from Heather Headley on Oct. 4. Headley took over from Jennifer Hudson at the Bernard B. Jacobs Theatre.

Holliday won a Tony in "Dreamgirls" as Effie "Melody" White—belting out a memorable "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going." She has appeared on TV and released her last CD in 2014, "The Song is You."

"The Color Purple" musical is a stage version of Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel set in rural Georgia that covers a lifetime of events observed by Celie, a homely, uneducated farm woman whose dreams are repeatedly shattered by the cruelty of males.

AP

This Jan. 15, 2014 file photo shows actress and singer Jennifer Holliday during an interview in Atlanta.

Donation of kidney ends with loss of a friendship

DEAR ABBY: My friend "Virginia" and I have known each other for 11 years. Five years ago she went into renal failure and was on dialysis for three years. It was hard on her and she needed a kidney transplant. Her three healthy siblings refused to be tested as a possible match.

Virginia is on the young side, and she was in such a bad way I agreed to be tested. After several procedures it was determined I was a "close enough" match, so we decided to go for it. She was scared to death right before the surgery. I convinced her that even though things might be rough for a while, she would be glad she went through with it.

It has been 18 months now, and I have not seen or heard from Virginia since the day after the surgery. I called her a few times to make sure she was doing well. She never returned my calls and has completely dropped out of my life. She lives only four blocks away, so I know things are going OK for her. I figured I'd give her some space, but that space has turned into forever. I haven't heard from her family either. They visited Virginia at the hospital, but didn't stop in to see me just three rooms away.

How could I have been so wrong about someone I knew for so long? My husband says Virginia is an idiot and I should let it go. My therapist says I'll have to "adjust to the injustice." I would have donated to a complete stranger without hesitation. But Virginia wasn't a stranger. I never expected to lose my friend along with my kidney. Can you please help me handle this?

BLINDSIDED IN NEW YORK

DEAR BLINDSIDED: I can see why you are hurt by the abrupt change in your friend's behavior, and believe me, I empathize. The knee-jerk reaction of someone who hasn't been through this would be to say what unfeeling and ungrateful people Virginia and her family are, because you literally saved her life.

However, it may help you to better understand what has happened if you consider that while you saved Virginia's life, sometimes the burden of gratitude is more than someone can bear. For whatever reason, she may carry some guilt about owing you as much as she does, which is why she can no longer interact with you.

As to her family, that none of her siblings were willing to be tested as possible matches for her speaks volumes about them and the quality of their relationships, so stop feeling slighted. Listen to your therapist because she/he has given you some practical advice.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Why is it that when women visit, they'll take their handbag and put it on the kitchen counter, the kitchen table or on the dining room table? Their handbags have been on as many floors as my shoes. Don't they think about what they're doing?

Please let your readers know this is not a good idea. If someone needs to put a handbag down, it should be placed on the floor, where it most likely was previously.

GROSSED OUT IN THE EAST

DEAR GROSSED OUT: I think the answer to your question is that the majority of women who carry purses DON'T think about this, just absentmindedly place them on the floor, a table, counter or chair.

However, for individuals who are concerned about the transfer of germs, there is a solution. There are portable hooks they can carry with them that rest on a table or desk so the purse can be suspended if it has a handle. I have seen them advertised on the internet, and they are inexpensive.

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

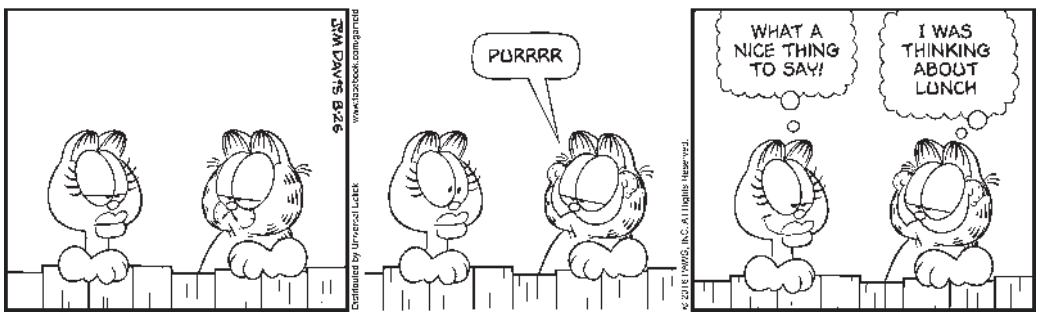
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HA HA! I HAVE TURNED MYSELF INVISIBLE!
BY REMOVING MY CLOTHING, I CAN PERPETRATE ANY CRIME UNDETECTED!
I HAVE COMPLETE FREEDOM! I CAN GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING!
CALVIN! WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING IN THE COOKIE JAR WITHOUT YOUR CLOTHES ON?!?

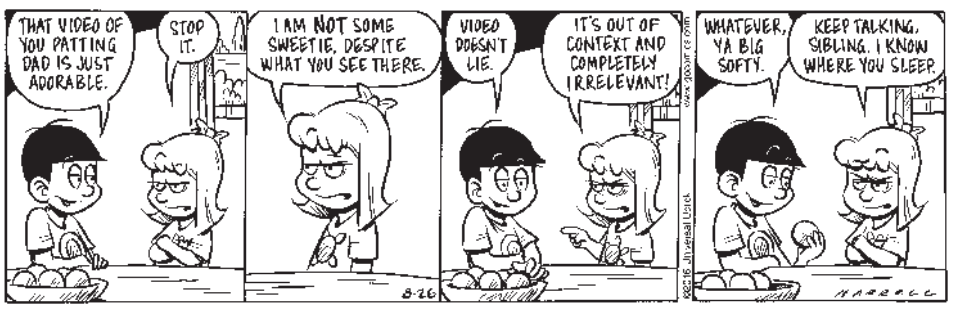
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



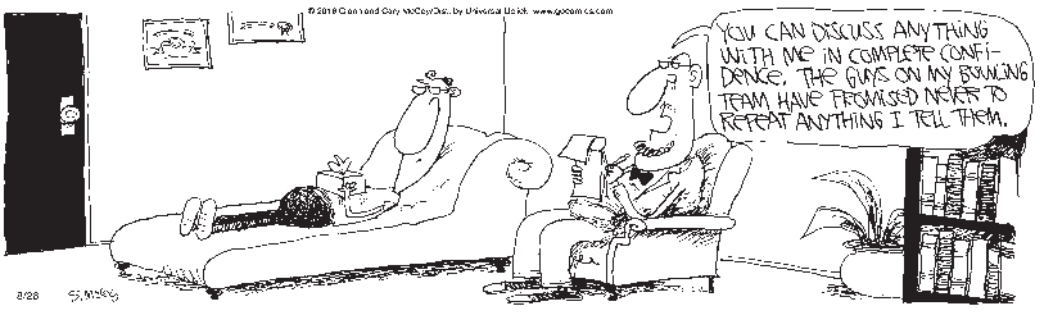
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THAT VIDEO OF YOU PATTING DAD IS JUST ADORABLE.
STOP IT.
I AM NOT SOME SWEETIE, DESPITE WHAT YOU SEE THERE.
VIDEO DOESN'T LIE.
IT'S OUT OF CONTEXT AND COMPLETELY IRRELEVANT!
WHATEVER, YA BIG SOFTY.
KEEP TALKING, SIBLING. I KNOW WHERE YOU SLEEP.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


YOU CAN DISCUSS ANYTHING WITH ME IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE. THE GUYS ON MY BOWLING TEAM HAVE PROMISED NEVER TO REPEAT ANYTHING I TELL THEM.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

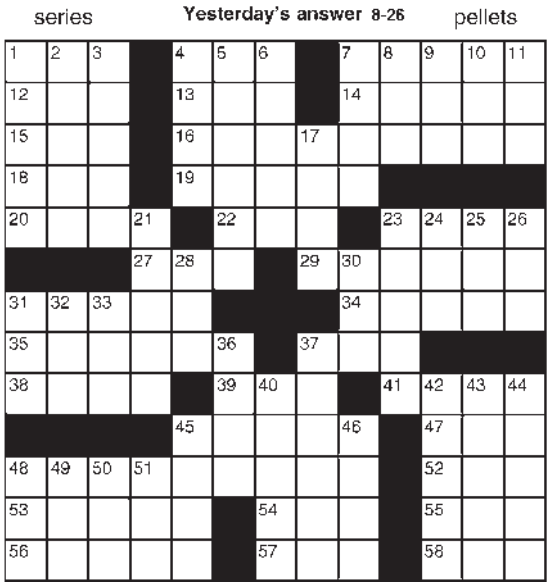
ACROSS
1 Central point
4 Sit-up targets
7 "— new?"
12 Eggs
13 Perched
14 Sun (Pref.)
15 Convent dweller
16 Tropical cooler
18 Sprite
19 "Believe it —!"
20 Wilson's predecessor
22 Mag. staff
23 The Mets' old home
27 Writer Rand
29 Brennan of "Clue"
31 Marsh bird
34 Tall and thin
35 Secret matters
37 Buddhist sect
38 Low isles
39 Hit CBS series
41 Nonsense
45 Sediment
47 Actress Lucy
48 Summer cooler
52 Doze (off)
53 Brazilian dance
54 Skillet
55 Director Lee
56 Bonkers
57 Pvt.'s superior
58 "Norma —"

DOWN
1 Music for nine
2 Palate dangler
3 Alberta resort town
4 Regarding
5 Lacking vegetation
6 Rise
7 Sharpen
8 Chop
9 "The Greatest"
10 Can material
11 Lay down the lawn
17 Rx amount
21 Spanish snacks
23 Word on the street?
24 Chick's mom
25 "A mouse!"
26 Whatever number
28 Longing
30 — -de-France
31 Pouch
32 Gun lobby org.
33 Glacial
36 Farm fraction
37 Move evasively
40 Leaks slowly
42 Of an arm bone
43 "Shrek" princess
44 Gooey treat
45 Wagon
46 Faxed
48 Tax form ID
49 — de cologne
50 Invoice fig.
51 Little pellets

Solution time: 26 mins.

G	A	S		E	L	A	N		L	E	A	S
O	W	N		T	A	R	A		I	T	U	P
P	E	A	C	H	P	I	T		L	A	D	E
		K	O	I		A	C	R	Y	L	I	C
Γ	R	E	N	C	H		H	O	P			
L	O	P		S	A	D		Z	A	P	P	A
A	R	I	T		M	F	T		D	I	F	S
T	E	T	R	A		B	A	I		T	R	A
			I	D	S		B	E	E	H	U	P
F	I	G		E	A	F		R	D	A		
A	B	O	O		P	I	T	B	U	L		S
M	I	N	G		P		E	A		L	E	E
E	D	G	Y		Y	E	L			S	O	W

Yesterday's answer 8-26



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Keke Palmer, 23; Macaulay Culkin, 36; Chris Pine, 36; Melissa McCarthy, 46.

Happy Birthday: Pay attention and don't lose sight of what's important. Your detailed method of doing things will be the best way to maneuver through the ups and downs you are almost certain to face this year. Unusual situations at home and at work will keep you on the move. Partnerships and extra responsibilities will be challenging. Take one step at a time. Your numbers are 3, 12, 21, 24, 37, 43, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Change your plans if it will improve your emotional well-being. A short trip or spending time with someone special will take your mind off the problems you are experiencing with someone at work. Don't fold under pressure. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Situations will get blown out of proportion when dealing with clients or peers. Don't say something you'll regret. It's best to bide your time and focus on personal improvements instead of trying to change others. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You'll face a multitude of choices. Take refuge somewhere you feel safe until you figure out the best way to move forward. Weigh the pros and cons, make well-considered decisions and take decisive action. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Dealing with coworkers and superiors will be intimidating if you don't demonstrate your strength of character and believe in your own talent, ability and skills. Go about your business and don't leave any reason for criticism. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Keep your personal life in perspective and you will avoid complaints and criticism. Taking on too much work and neglecting the one you love will end in a rude awakening. Day trips and family fun should be on your agenda. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take precautions when it comes to your reputation and maintaining the status quo. Someone will try to make you look bad. Don't overreact or you will send the wrong message and make a poor impression on others. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make travel plans or sign up for an activity that will enlighten you. Put yourself on the line and don't be afraid to instigate personal change. It's important to stay true to your beliefs and live life accordingly. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't give in to emotional manipulation. Offer what you can safely deliver and nothing more. Focus on finishing what you start. A past problem is likely to surface. Do your best to put an end to the ongoing drama in your life. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Partnerships will be difficult to manage. Do your best not to cause any arguments with friends or colleagues. Ask direct questions before you make a decision that will influence your future. Your reputation is at stake. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Learn everything you can about your area of interest. It's in your best interest to keep an eye on anything that might end up costing you emotionally, financially or physically. Legal issues are likely to develop. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Do something fun with children, family or your partner. Return to an old pastime and you will find an outlet for the pent-up energy you are harboring. Networking will pay off, and mixing business with pleasure is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You may not be able to do everything you want all at once, but taking one step at a time will get you headed in the right direction. Problems will surface in a partnership. Do your own thing and offer others the same luxury. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are meticulous, expressive and adaptable. You are unpredictable and sophisticated.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		6			8			
		4	5		2	3		
3	2						4	1
	3			5			1	
	8			4			6	
7	6						2	9
		9	1		7	5		
		8				7		

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	3	8	2	6	9	5	7	1
6	5	9	1	7	4	2	3	8
2	7	1	8	3	5	4	9	6
7	2	5	6	4	3	1	8	9
1	6	3	9	2	8	7	4	5
8	9	4	7	5	1	3	6	2
9	8	7	4	1	2	6	5	3
3	4	2	5	9	6	8	1	7
5	1	6	3	8	7	9	2	4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/25

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HTML PROGRAMMING Solution: 8 letters

E	S	V	C	O	N	T	E	N	T	A	M	R	O	F
C	E	A	H	E	A	D	E	R	L	T	G	Ⓑ	Ⓔ	Ⓦ
N	T	L	M	G	N	E	D	D	I	H	N	D	L	A
E	U	U	S	P	A	G	E	S	T	O	I	O	I	B
U	B	E	S	R	E	N	M	T	G	T	N	R	F	R
Q	I	T	V	D	E	R	P	Y	O	S	E	E	D	O
E	R	A	E	I	A	N	S	R	N	P	P	P	I	W
S	T	E	Q	S	S	E	R	A	U	O	O	Y	S	S
S	T	R	U	C	T	U	R	E	N	T	R	H	P	E
Y	A	C	A	T	C	P	A	O	B	D	O	C	L	R
M	S	N	L	S	L	S	I	L	L	M	A	T	A	S
B	T	I	S	I	O	A	K	R	E	O	I	T	Y	T
O	Y	A	I	L	S	G	E	N	C	T	C	T	A	Y
L	L	L	G	S	E	G	A	M	I	S	R	I	A	P
C	E	P	N	O	I	T	A	R	A	L	C	E	D	E

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 8/26

Acronym, Ampersand, Attributes, Browsers, Class, Close, Color, Content, Create, Data, Declaration, Display, Editor, Equal, File, Font, Format, Header, Hidden, Home, Hot Spot, HTTP, Hyper, Images, Links, List, Opening, Pages, Pairs, Plain, Reads, Scripts, Sequence, Sign, Structure, Style, Symbol, Tags, Tim Berners Lee, Title, Type, Value, Visual, Web

Yesterday's Answer: Mountains

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

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(1) Accountant/Office Manager
Min. of 5 years experience on Accounting and office management. With good command in English and Korean. Must provide own transportation. Can work on flexible hours. Send resume to sylviacnmi@gmail.com

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Saipan Tribune

WHATZIT Solution: More in sorrow than in anger

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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Find today's solution in classified section

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to limit hiring to qualified US workers, as restricted by CNMI law, and that equal opportunity be given to all qualified US worker applicants regardless of age, sex or sexual orientation, religion, marital status, political status, veterans status, disability or place of origin.

Opening Date: 08/26/16 **Closing Date: 09/09/16***

POSITION TITLE: **STATISTICS SPECIALIST I**
PAY LEVEL: 25/01 – 25/08
ANNUAL SALARY: $17,700.92 - $24,889.35**
LOCATION: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

POSITION TITLE: **STATISTICS SPECIALIST II**
PAY LEVEL: 27/01 – 27/08
ANNUAL SALARY: $ 19,511.46 - $27,437.44**
LOCATION: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

*If not filled, the vacancy announcement will be continued and applications will be reviewed every two weeks thereafter until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day.

** The salary given will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 for more detailed information on position description. A completed application must be submitted together with the required documents for consideration until search is closed. A resume may be attached, but the application form must be filled out in full. MVA is an equal opportunity employer.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT for MISA ENTERPRISES,INC.

General Maintenance (2): Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing, repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. All applicants must be of good health and good moral character must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of position listed above are required to have a minimum of 2-3 years of experience.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant MISA Bldg.1 in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

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We deliver the F.U.N. in Hospitality

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- Cook

Chinese
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- Chef de partie
- Cook

Pastry
- Chef de partie
- Baker

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- Sous chef
- Chef de partie
- Cook

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- Food and Beverage Assistant Manager
- Food and Beverage Supervisor

Finance
- Duty Free Manager, Chinese Speaking a plus
- Duty Free Supervisor

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- Housekeeping Assistant Manager

Entertainment Division
- Entertainment Crew

Please email your resume to hr@mrisaipan.com or call (670) 237-4505

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MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, -v- THE ESTATE OF GABRIEL D. DELA CRUZ and ROSA M. DELA CRUZ, Defendants.	:	CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0131

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated July 25, 2016 by order of the Court:

/s/ Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC.
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL.: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION	:	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0130**
Plaintiff -v-	:	
ANTONIO C. BARCINAS AND RAMONA SN. BARCINAS	:	
Defendants.	:	

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated August 24, 2016 by order of the Court.

/s/ Clerk of Court

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCE MENT

(2) TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN

- Must have at least 5 years work experience in the Telecommunications trade
- Knowledge and expertise in analyzing engineering computer, RF systems, and other iDEN telecom related equipment to maintain and improve our current telecommunications system.
- Must have good communication skills.

Interested applicants can send resume to
Choice Radio, Inc.
P.O. Box 501750 Saipan, MP 96950

Francisco C. Cabrera
dba Design Florist/Cabrera Funeral

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Flower Arranger

- Must have at least 3 years experience.
- Able to work flexible hours.

All interested applicant must apply in person.
Cabrera Center Bldg., Beach Road, Garapan

LSG Sky Chefs

LSG SKY CHEFS is looking to hire qualified U.S. workers for the following position:

(1) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Qualifications

- **High School Graduate with 2 years experience**
- **Computer literate: Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint plus**
- **Must be able to travel with a US passport**

Applications are available at the Main Office located on airport road, situated between American Red Cross Office and Historic Preservation Office, or send resume to rita.taitano@lsgskychefs.com.

HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: SALES MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION: Direct and coordinate activities involving sales of manufactured products, and services. Resolve customer complaints regarding sales and service. Review operational records and reports to project sales and determine profitability. Oversee local sales staff. Monitor customer preferences to determine focus of sales efforts. Plan and direct staffing, training, and performance evaluations to develop and control sales and service programs. Direct, coordinate, and review activities in sales and service accounting and record-keeping, and in receiving and shipping operation.

QUALIFICATIONS: Graduate of Bachelors/associates degree in Sales and Marketing or comparable work experience in the position and has held position for 4-7 years concurrently. Must be proficient in Microsoft office applications and accounting software preferably Peachtree Sage 50. Knowledge of principles and methods for showing, promoting, and selling products or services. This includes marketing strategy and tactics, product demonstration, sales techniques, and sales control systems. Knowledge of business and management principles involved in strategic planning, resource allocation, human resources modeling, leadership technique, production methods, and coordination of people and resources.

Interested applicants may send their resume to sales.saipan@hermansbakery.com or pick-up an application form at our HR office in Tun Herman Pan (Airport Road)

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Board of Directors

Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. better known as NMPASI hereby seeks interested individuals to fill several vacancies on its Board of Directors for four (4) year terms to be effective starting on October 1, 2016.

The eligibility criteria for persons wishing to fill available vacancies include that a person must:

(1) Be a person with a documented disability;
(2) Be parents or guardians of persons with a documented disability; OR
(3) Be immediate relatives or guardians of persons with mentally impairing disabilities.

The Board is looking to fill vacancies with three (3) people from the Island of Saipan, one (1) from the Island of Tinian and One (1) from the Island of Rota.

Interested individuals should submit (1) a Letter and of Interest and (2) a Resume addressed to the NMPASI Executive Committee. Decisions about who is selected are done so at the sole discretion of the Executive Committee and the General Board Membership. The staff including the Executive Director cannot appoint anyone to the Board.

For anything more, please feel free to contact the NMPASI Office at (670) 235-7273/4 [tell] / 235-7275 [fax/tty] or via our website at www.nmpasi.org.

IT&E
Life In Motion

The following full-time position is available in our organization:

Account Executive

This position is responsible for maintaining the sales and distribution of prepaid calling cards, handsets, and accessories in the Guam/CNMI trade via independent Contractors, Direct Resellers, and Customer Service Outlets to ensure that all customers have access to purchase IT&E prepaid products (cards, handsets, equipment, and accessories) throughout the island.

More than 50% of the Account Executive's work time is selling outside of the Company.

Minimum qualifications:

- High School Diploma or equivalent;
- Three years experience in marketing and/or sales, preferably in the telecommunications industry; and a valid driver's license

Candidates Must Have:

1. Knowledge of:
   a. Sales and motivation techniques
   b. Telecommunications prepaid calling cards, handsets, accessories
   c. Telecommunication networks and processes
2. Skills in:
   a. Researching and analyzing market and sales trends
   b. Public speaking and marketing/sales presentations
   c. Use of personal computer hardware and Microsoft software programs
3. Ability to:
   a. Communicate clearly, concisely and accurately in English with all levels of staff and customers, both verbally and in writing

Interested candidates must apply online at our website, http://www.ite.net by August 26, 2016.

As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, we afford equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, or disability or genetic information.
We are also a Drug Free Workplace.

LAOLAO BAY GOLF & RESORT

SAIPAN LAULAU DEVELOPMENT, INC.
PMB 1020 PO Box 10000 Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670)236-8888, Fax No. (670)236-8880

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Wait Staff

Present menus to patrons and answer questions about menu items, making recommendations upon request. Take orders from patrons for food or beverages. Write patrons' food orders on order slips, memorize orders, or enter orders into computers for transmittal to kitchen staff. Serve food or beverages to patrons. Prepare beverages for patrons. Prepare checks that itemize and total meal costs. Check patrons' identification to ensure that they meet minimum age requirements for consumption of alcoholic beverages. Check with customers to ensure that they are enjoying their meals and take action to correct any problems. Collect payments from customers. Clean tables or counters after patrons have finished dining. Other related duties as assigned.

Qualification: Must have a High School Diploma, Little or no previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. Must have reliable transportation, and be able to work nights and weekends. Must have a friendly and approachable personality. A fair understanding of the Korean and Japanese languages is preferred. Successful candidates will be required to obtain a Food Handler's certificate.
Rate: $6.55 -$6.80/hr

Position: HVAC Technician

Observe and test system operation, using gauges and instruments. Adjust valves according to specifications and charge system with proper type of refrigerant by pumping the specified gas or fluid into the system. Test lines, components, and connections for leaks. Dismantle malfunctioning systems and test components, using electrical, mechanical, and pneumatic testing equipment. Adjust or replace worn or defective mechanisms and parts, and reassemble repaired systems.

Qualification: One to two (1-2) years of work experience in this field required. Must be highly reliable (may be required to respond to emergencies), able to lift at least 50 lbs, and work nights, weekends, and holidays.
Rate: $6.55 -$7.00/hr

IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS POSITION, interested applicant may drop off resume and fill out application form at the Frontdesk of LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, Kagman Road. Successful candidates should submit a recent Police Clearance, and may be subject to Pre-Employment Drug testing. LaoLao Bay Golf Resort is an equal opportunity employer. Medical insurance and workmen's compensation provided. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following vacant positions:

DIRECTOR OF ROOMS (1)
Qualifications: Must have a degree or diploma in Hospitality, Tourism or Business Management. Minimum of two years similar work experience and preferably with two to four years experience as Front Office Manager, Executive Housekeeping Manager or Sales Manager in a hotel of significant volume. Must have at least 4 years of progressive experience in a management level in the Hospitality Industry. Must be able to multi-task and possess exceptional customer service and interpersonal skills. Must have excellent oral and written communication. Planning, problem-solving and financial reporting skills are essential. Must have the ability to manage employee performance and run a work team/division in a changing environment. The successful candidate will be responsible for the smooth and efficient running of all operational aspects of the Rooms Division of the Resort.

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING (1)
Qualifications: Ideally a degree in Engineering and Facility Management with extensive exposure to engineering principles and methods; trained or educated in engineering, facilities maintenance or in any related fields; with three to six years of similar experience/or training; or the equivalent combination of education and experience. Must have at least 4 years of senior management experience in the Hospitality Industry or in a facility management role. Must be able to effectively interact with people of diverse socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds. Must possess very good communication and project management skills. The successful candidate will oversee and manage the Resort facilities to ensure that operations and facilities are functioning smoothly and fully and that all guests, employees and associates are safe and secure and the Resort's assets are protected.

Application forms may be obtained at the HRD Office, South Wing, 2nd Floor.
Interested applicants may also send their resumes to fiesta_hr@fiestasaipan.com.
To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than August 31, 2016.
Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: ACCOUNTANT

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- College degree with Accountancy major.
- Minimum five (5) years progressive work experience as an Accountant.
- Excellent computer skills and extensive experience with MYOB accounting software and windows office programs.
- Proficiency in preparation of various financial statements and reports.
- Familiarity with GAAP.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Prepare, examine, or analyze accounting records, financial statements, or other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness, and conformance to reporting and procedural standards.
- Compute CNMI and federal taxes owed and prepare monthly, quarterly and annual tax returns, ensuring compliance with filing, payment and reporting requirements. Prepare year-end employee wage and tax statements and annual reconciliation of taxes withheld.
- Conduct internal audits to verify compliance to procedures and controls.
- Report to management regarding the finances of establishment.
- Develop, implement, modify and document record keeping and accounting systems, making use of MYOB accounting software and Microsoft office programs.
- Develop, maintain, and analyze budgets, preparing periodic reports that compare budgeted costs to actual costs. Determine cause of variances and implement controls.
- Analyze business operations, trends, costs, revenues, financial commitments, and obligations, to project future revenues and expenses and to provide advice to management.
- Advise management about issues such as resource utilization, tax strategies and the assumptions underlying budget forecasts.
- Conduct periodic inventory of properties and merchandise. Determine cause of variances, do reconciliation and implement internal control.
- Perform other duties such as preparation of check and cash disbursements, payroll, collection of accounts, reconciliation of customers and vendors account ledgers and bank reconciliation.
- Update merchandise costs spreadsheet on a timely manner and adjust selling prices to achieve monthly budgeted gross sales.
- Survey operations to ascertain accounting needs and to recommend, develop or maintain solutions to business and financial problems.

Company: ASIA 360, Inc.
Email us at: a360inc.64@yahoo.com

JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc.
Dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Cook (4): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Restaurant Waitress (2): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants of positions listed above except Restaurant Waitress (3 months work experience) are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Interested applicants must apply in person, applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.
Please no phone calls.

Check out the latest issue and back issues of TAGA *Sports*, the CNMI's first and premier sports magazine, on issuu.com/tagasports!

Solo suspended from US soccer team for 6 months

CHICAGO (AP) — U.S. women's goalkeeper Hope Solo was suspended Wednesday for six months by U.S. Soccer for disparaging comments about Sweden following the Americans' early departure from the Rio Olympics.

Solo called the Swedes "a bunch of cowards" for focusing on defense rather than attacking the three-time defending champion U.S. team. Sweden ousted the U.S. 4-3 on penalty kicks following a 1-1 draw in a quarterfinal match.

U.S. Soccer president Sunil Gulati said Solo's comments were "unacceptable and do not meet the standard of conduct we require from our National Team players."

"Beyond the athletic arena, and beyond the results, the Olympics celebrate and represent the ideals of fair play and respect," Gulati said. "We expect all of our representatives to honor those principles, with no exceptions."

The 35-year-old Solo, who was previously suspended for 30 days early in 2015 for her conduct, will not be eligible for selection to the national team until February.

Solo said she was "saddened" by the decision in a statement on her Facebook page .

"I could not be the player I am without being the person I am, even when I haven't made the best choices or said the right things," she said. "My entire career, I have only wanted the best for this team, for the players and the women's game and I will continue to pursue these causes with the same unrelenting passion with which I play the game."

Solo was a lightning rod during the Olympic tournament, irking fans in Brazil when she posted a photo on social media of herself covered with mosquito netting and armed with insect repellant. Fans booed her mercilessly and hollered "Zika!" each time she kicked downfield.

Then she caused a stir with her "cowards" comment.

Sweden's coach, Pia Sundhage, who led the U.S. team to gold medals in Beijing and London, replied by stating: "It's OK to be a coward if you win."

Solo has been making headlines throughout her stellar career.

Last month, she became the first goalkeeper with 100 international shutouts when the United States defeated South Africa 1-0 at Soldier Field in Chicago. It also was her 150th career win.

Solo won her second straight Golden Glove Award for the best goalkeeper at the Women's World Cup a year ago. Over the course of the tournament in Canada, she had five shutouts and allowed only three goals in seven games.

She has vocally advocated for women's rights. Solo was among the U.S. players who filed a complaint with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for wage discrimination, saying the men's national team players have been paid much more than many on the women's team.

More recently, she has called for better conditions for players in the National Women's Soccer League.

She has also been trying to avoid trial on misdemeanor domestic violence charges after a 2014 incident at her sister's home, when the goalkeeper was accused of being intoxicated and assaulting her sister and 17-year-old nephew. Solo said she was a victim in the altercation. Earlier this year, an appeals court in Washington state rejected Solo's request to avoid trial.

AP

In this Aug. 3, 2016, file photo, U.S. goalkeeper Hope Solo takes the ball during a women's Olympic football tournament match against New Zealand in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Solo has been suspended from the team for six months for what U.S. Soccer termed conduct "counter to the organization's principles.

With no deal, Chargers withdraw offer to first-rounder Bosa

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Joey Bosa's holdout turned ugly Wednesday when the San Diego Chargers pulled their contract offer to the first-round draft pick and said they'll restructure a new deal that would reflect him playing less than a full season.

Bosa has missed all of training camp as his agents and the team wrangle over how much of his $17 million signing bonus he'll get up front, as well as offset language in the case he gets cut.

The Chargers were counting on the former Ohio State star to help bolster their pass rush and bring some excitement to a season that could be pivotal to their future in San Diego.

It's not clear whether Bosa, the No. 3 pick overall, is willing to sit out the season. Also unclear is how the situation could affect the Chargers' push for $1.1 billion in a public subsidy for a new downtown stadium, which could be their last chance at remaining in San Diego.

At the very least, the team is willing to continue to play hardball with Bosa.

The Chargers said in a statement that they gave Bosa's agents their best offer on Tuesday night, and it was rejected Wednesday.

"The offer that we extended was for Joey to contribute during all 16 games and beyond," the team said. "Joey's ability to contribute for an entire rookie season has now been jeopardized by the valuable time he has missed with his coaches and his teammates. Since Joey will not report at this time, his ability to produce not just early in the season, but throughout the entire season, has been negatively impacted."

Bosa is the only first-rounder who has not signed with his team.

San Diego said it offered an initial signing bonus payment larger than any draftee received in the past two drafts, and more money in 2016 than any draftee except Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz.

One of Bosa's agents, Brian Ayrault said in a statement that it was "unfortunate the San Diego Chargers have decided to manipulate facts and negotiate in the media. The team surely is not strengthening its relationship with Joey Bosa by taking this stance and making their position public."

He added that "the Chargers can focus on trying to sway public opinion, but our focus will remain on our client and securing a contract for him that is fair and consistent with his draft position."

Asked twice via text if Bosa was prepared to sit out the entire season, Ayrault didn't answer.

One of Bosa's agents at CAA Sports, Tom Condon, has sparred plenty with the Chargers over the years. He represented Eli Manning, whose family didn't want the Chargers to take him with the No. 1 pick overall in 2004. San Diego took him anyway, and then traded him to the New York Giants for Philip Rivers. Condon also represented Drew Brees, LaDainian Tomlinson and Marty Schottenheimer, all of whom had unhappy departures from the team.

The rhetoric accelerated earlier this month when Cheryl Bosa, Joey's mother, posted a remark toward the Chargers on Facebook. In a reply to someone frustrated by the impasse, she wrote: "It bums me out for him so much. Wish we pulled an Eli Manning on draft day."

Questions loom as Broncos head into 3rd preseason game

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—The Denver Broncos face critical decisions two weeks before the Super Bowl champions open the season.

They have more questions than answers heading into the third preseason game, none more glaring than at quarterback. Trevor Siemian was named the starter ahead of veteran Mark Sanchez for the game against the Los Angeles Rams on Saturday, and the full-time job appears to be his to lose.

Siemian, in his second year out of Northwestern, said he isn't looking beyond the Rams.

"I'm not reading too much into it," he said of his second straight start.

Siemian was limited in practice Tuesday because of a bruised right shoulder but he was throwing Wednesday. Coach Gary Kubiak said Siemian did 80 percent of his usual workload and is still on track to be the starter against the Rams.

"He looked good," Kubiak said. "I think he was a little sore coming out but he worked through it and hopefully he'll be better (Thursday)."

Siemian was 10 of 14 for 75 yards and led the Broncos to a touchdown on their first drive of Saturday's game against San Francisco. He dinged his shoulder when he tried to make a tackle on safety Ed Reid, who intercepted him and returned it for a touchdown early in the second quarter.

Pujols hits milestone HR, Angels beat Jays

TORONTO (AP)—Albert Pujols had a productive night at the plate and passed a former teammate on the all-time home run list, helping the Angels to a rare road win.

Pujols moved into sole possession of 10th place on baseball's all-time list by hitting his 584th home run, Matt Shoemaker pitched six shutout innings and Los Angeles snapped an 11-game road losing streak by beating the Toronto Blue Jays 8-2 on Wednesday.

Pujols had a season-high four hits and three RBI. After he and Mike Trout hit back-to-back homers in the first, Pujols hit a sacrifice fly in the second, singled in the fourth and sixth innings, then capped his night with an RBI double in the eighth.

Pujols left without speaking to reporters, but his teammates shared their happiness at his historic homer.

"Albert will probably pass a few more of those guys, hopefully all of them," Shoemaker said. "It's always special and we're happy for him."

Pujols leads the Angels with 99 RBI.

"Albert just keeps going," manager Mike Scioscia said. "He's approaching 100 RBI. He's in the middle of our lineup virtually every day. He got some big hits tonight."

For Pujols, the homer broke a tie with Mark McGwire on the all-time list. Pujols hit 37 homers as a rookie with St. Louis in 2001, McGwire's final season before retirement.

"That's pretty special," Trout said of Pujols' milestone homer. "Obviously he and McGwire were teammates, they know each other well."

A three-time MVP and 10-time All-Star, Pujols is two home runs shy of tying Frank Robinson for ninth place.

A 16-year veteran, Pujols has hit at least 20 home runs in every season but 2013, when he was limited to 99 games.

"He hasn't shown any signs of slowing down," Trout said. "He's still putting up numbers, still driving in 100. It's fun to watch."

Two pitches after Trout hit his 24th home run, Pujols did the same. It was the fourth time this season the Angels have hit back-to-back homers.

AP

Los Angeles Angels' Albert Pujols watches his shot for a solo homer in the first inning of their game against the Toronto Blue on Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016, in Toronto. The Angels won, 8-2.

Cubs 6, Padres 3

In San Diego, Major league ERA leader Kyle Hendricks pitched six effective innings and the Chicago Cubs finished off a three-game sweep, beating the San Diego Padres

Hendricks (12-7) gave up two runs and four hits, striking out eight and leaving with a 2.19 ERA. He has allowed no more than three earned runs in 17 straight starts.

There Cubs relievers took over for the NL Central leaders, with Aroldis Chapman pitching the ninth for his 29th save in 32 chances.

Yankees 5, Mariners 0

In Seattle, rookie Gary Sanchez kept up his torrid stretch with his seventh home run in the past nine games, and Masahiro Tanaka won his fourth straight start in New York's victory over Seattle.

Tanaka (11-4) threw seven shutout innings and got the better of the Mariners and former Japan League teammate Hisashi Iwakuma (14-9).

Rangers 6, Reds 5

In Cincinnati, Yu Darvish hit only the second homer by a Texas pitcher and Adrian Beltre had a tiebreaking double in the eighth inning in the Rangers' 6-5 victory over Cincinnati.

Darvish's solo shot to center field was one of three homers by the Rangers, who wasted a three-run lead before rallying late. Beltre's double off Blake Wood (5-2) snapped a 5-5 tie.

Rays 4, Red Sox 3, 11 innings

In St. Petersburg, David Ortiz hit his 30th home run in the first inning, but Tampa Bay came back from a three-run deficit to beat Boston to prevent the Red Sox from taking sole possession of the AL East lead.

Luke Maile doubled with two out in the 11th and scored after Red Sox pitcher Heath Hembree (4-1) dropped a throw to first base on Kevin Kiermaier's grounder.

Orioles 10, Nationals 8

In Washington, Baltimore closer Zach Britton saw his remarkable streak of 43 straight games without allowing an earned run end, then shut down Washington's ninth-inning rally.

The Nationals scored five times in the ninth, one of them charged to Britton. But after his own mistake helped Washington put runners on first and second with one out, Britton got Ryan Zimmerman to ground into a double play.

Marlins 3, Royals 0

In Miami, Jose Fernandez pitched seven innings and appeared to avoid a serious injury when he tweaked his right leg on his final pitch, helping Miami snap Kansas City's winning streak at nine.

Fernandez (13-7) pulled up after striking out Christian Colon to end the seventh, and rubbed his right knee before limping to the dugout. The Marlins pinch-hit for him in the bottom of the seventh.

Cardinals 8, Mets 1

In St. Louis, Matt Carpenter, Randal Grichuk and Stephen Piscotty homered off New York starter Jacob deGrom to power St. Louis.

Carpenter set the tone, hitting a leadoff home run in the first inning. The Cardinals went on to win for the seventh time in nine games.

Piscotty and Yadier Molina each had three of the Cardinals' season high-tying 19 hits.

Athletics 5, Indians 1

In Oakland, Kendall Graveman pitched into the seventh inning to become Oakland's first 10-game winner this season, and the Athletics beat Cleveland.

The A's took two of three games from the AL Central leaders. Cleveland went into the day with the best record in the American League, but was held to one run for the third consecutive game.

Astros 5, Pirates 4

In Pittsburgh, Evan Gattis hit his 20th home run, leading Collin McHugh and Houston over Pittsburgh for the Astros' fifth victory in six games.

McHugh (8-10) gave up three runs in five innings, ending an 0-4 rut in his last five starts. Ken Giles closed for his fifth save. Gerrit Cole (7-9) allowed five runs in five innings.

Brewers 7, Rockies 1

In Milwaukee, Ryan Braun hit two home runs and Milwaukee tied a season high with its fourth straight victory, beating Colorado.

Braun hit a solo drive off Tyler Anderson (4-5) in the fourth inning. He connected for his 24th homer, a two-run shot, off Chad Qualls in a four-run seventh.

Tigers 9, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Miguel Cabrera hit his 28th home run and had four hits, Justin Upton added a three-run homer and Detroit beat Minnesota.

Matt Boyd (5-2) tied his career high with seven strikeouts in six innings to win his fifth straight decision.

Phillies 5, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Tommy Joseph and Cesar Hernandez homered to back Jerad Eickhoff, and struggling Philadelphia beat Chicago.

Joseph and Hernandez each had two hits and went deep against James Shields (5-16). Aaron Altherr added two RBI singles.

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Team White dominates Team Black

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Team White prevailed in eight of its 10 matches against Team Black to cruise to a 23-7 victory in the 2016 Sun Palace Badminton Team Tournament over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

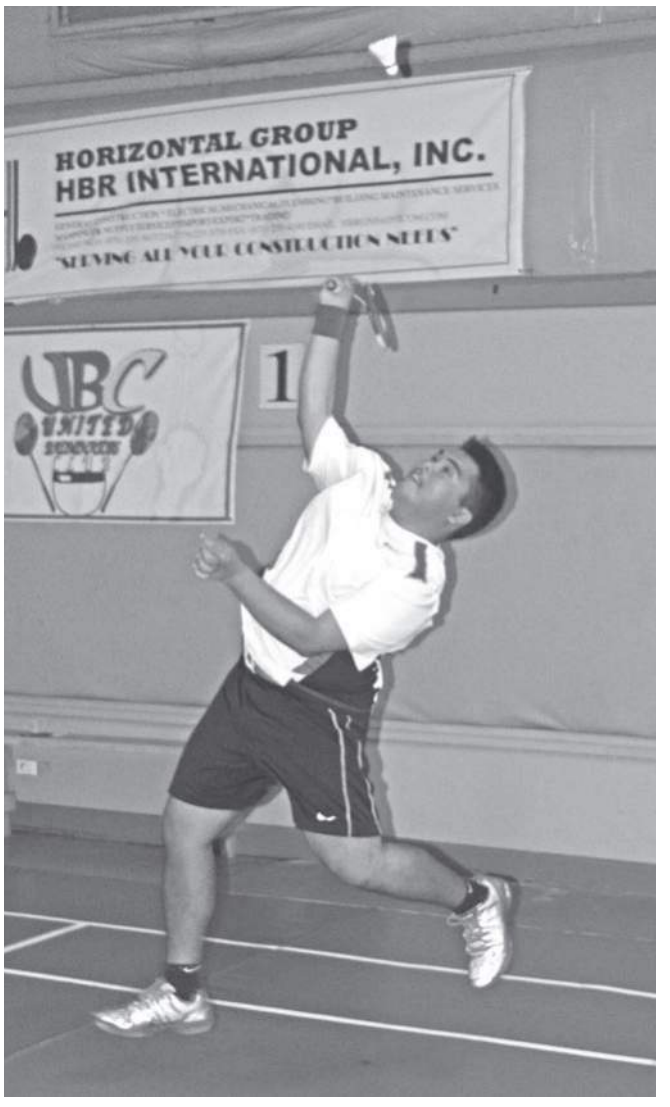
The winning squad recorded sweeps in three of the first five matches last Saturday to gain cushion and earned three more wins via straight games last Sunday to improve to a 42-18 record after Week 2.

Jordan Pangilinan gave Team White its first triumph last weekend when he topped Glen Bluutjens in the men's A singles, 21-13, 21-16. The pairs of Chris Hilario and Nathan Guerrero and Hajin and Taka registered the two other sweeps for Team White with the first duo defeating George and Eydie Uy in the men's B doubles, 21-12, 21-17, and the second beating Uy and Tim in the men's C doubles, 21-10, 21-11.

Pangilinan also played in the men's AB doubles with Guerrero and needed three games to thwart Bluutjens and George, 21-16, 16-21, 21-15. Hannah Choi handed Black Team its lone win last Saturday after outclassing Malou Malasarte, 21-6, 21-10.

Team White and Team Black then returned to the court last Sunday to play the remaining five matches and although the latter won the first pairing, it was not enough to spark the squad's comeback bid. Anna Alvarez and Loyda Ito gave Team Black a good start when they prevailed against Nicole Malasarte and Lani Santos in the women's B doubles, 21-19, 16-21, 21-11.

Nicole had back-to-back games and this time paired with Alyssa Velasco in downing Alvarez and Roxanne in the women's BC doubles, 21-18, 21-15. Team Black also took the three remaining matches with the pairs or Santos and Velasco, Malasarte and Guerrero, and Hilario and Velasco outlasting their respective foes.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Team White's Jordan Pangilinan leans back for a return to Team Blue's Deether Edralin during their men's A singles game in the Sun Palace tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.

Santos and Velasco edged Roxanne and Myrtel Cascabel in the women's C doubles, 21-10, 21-17; Nicole and Guerrero won over Alvin Alvarez and Ito in the mixed B doubles, 21-11, 21-16; and Hilario and Velasco rallied past Ito and Uy in the mixed BC doubles, 12-21, 21-14, 21-12.

In the other pairing over the weekend, Team Pink escaped with a 16-14 triumph over Team Blue to recover from a 14-16 loss to Team Black last Friday.

Four wins in the last five games allowed Team Pink to steal the win from Team Blue. Husband and wife Jojo and Merlie Savellano sealed it for Team Pink as they outlasted Allan and Anna Omori in the mixed BC doubles, 21-19, 17-21, 21-10.

The pairs of Christy Villaflor and Cheng Saturno, Yoko and Villaflor, and Rodwealth Espana and Saturno also delivered the needed victories for Team Pink last Sunday, while Jen Savellano scored the squad's lone victory last Saturday after sweeping Lanie Bartolome in the women's A singles, 21-12, 21-14.

Former No. 1 pick Brown eyes NBA comeback

NEW YORK— As the NBA world gets set to tuck in for an abbreviated late-summer vacation, now that the bulk of free agency and the 2016 Summer Olympics are in the rearview mirror, we're starting to hear more and more from veterans currently outside the league intent on making their way back in come the fall. Ray Allen, Baron Davis, Emeka Okafor, Von Wafer, Ben Gordon and Flip Murray—plenty of ex-NBA contributors are either actively pursuing or seriously considering taking another crack at the big time. From the sound of it, they're about to be joined by a former No. 1 overall draft pick.

Interperformances has announced that NBA star Kwame Brown decided to sign with the agency. The No. 1 overall pick of the 2001 draft is ready for a new life. His comeback can be the road to glory for a team that believes in him. Kwame is back, physically healthy and ready to be the outstanding player he was on several NBA teams.

"A great intimidator that can block shots, rebound consistently and explode in devastating dunks. No longer the young man that entered the NBA, Kwame is now an experienced and mature player and man. And he's back, for the love of the game," Interperformances said in a statement.

The 34-year-old Brown, a 6-foot-11-inch prep star whom the Washington Wizards in 2001 made the first-ever high schooler taken with the first selection in the NBA draft, last played in the pros in February of 2013 as a member of the Philadelphia 76ers. Seven months earlier, the Sixers induced scads of arched eyebrows when they signed Brown—at that point more than a decade removed from the brutal berating by Wizards owner/teammate Michael Jordan that many believe shattered his confidence and submarined his career, eight years past the most consistently productive ball he'd played in the NBA, having settled into his position as a below-average rotation big man who'd played for five teams over the previous five seasons—to a two-year, $6 million contract. He'd make 22 appearances in a Sixer uniform, spending most of his first season injured and/or reportedly out of shape; after beginning Year 2 on the injured list, too, Philly waived him less than a month into the season.

KANOA

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of Kanoa's total output.

Schmidt started the playoff game with 5 straight points and scored 7 of Kanoa's first 9, while Duenas knocked the next 8 markers. The former Palau National Team member went on to finish the half with 13 points, while Danny Agulto hit two triples in the closing minutes of the opening frame to give Kanoa a 35-19 advantage.

JP Mambas found itself behind by double digits early as it played with a depleted roster. Only six players showed up for the match, leaving Tony Raho and Ferdie De La Torre the tough task to keep JP in the game. Dela Torre hit JP's last 6 points and had 8 after the first half, while Raho contributed 5.

Without enough manpower, JP failed to bring the deficit down to single digit in the second half, while Schmidt and Duenas continued to lead Kanoa en route to the 27-point winning margin.

Raho had 17 markers on a losing effort, while De La Torre tallied 14.

In the second game, Fiesta also got off to a good start, building a 20-point advantage at the break, 42-22 and keeping the safe distance to move to the semifinals.

After a series of single-digit scoring in the regular season, Elmer Esdrelon stepped up in the first game in the playoffs, knocking 14 of his 16 points in the opening half to lift Fiesta to a commanding lead. Fradel Sedillo and Paul Quizon backed him up, combining for 13 more markers in the first 20 minutes of play.

Shirley's had four players making at least two baskets each in the first half, but these were not enough to match Fiesta's offensive firepower and the former clearly missed Erick Dela Rosa. The Shirley's big man left Saipan for the mainland at the conclusion of the regular season.

Without a threat inside, Shirley's failed to overhaul Fiesta's lead in the second half, while the latter retained the big lead, thanks to a strong finish from Adonis Macoto and a few more baskets from Sedillo and Jerald Rivera. Macoto had 10 points in the final half, while Sedillo added 6 more points, and Rivera posted all his 7 markers in the payoff frame.

First Game

Kanoa 86 — Schmidt 32, E. Duenas 21, Bustillo 9, Agulto 8, Pablo 6, Arroz 5, Usi 3, Villagomez 2,

JP Mambas 59 — Raho 17, De La Torre 14, Rabago 12, Chan 10, Calibo 6.

Scoring by halves: 35-19, 86-59.

Second Game

Fiesta 77— Quizon 19, Esdrelon 16, Macoto 15, Sedillo 13, Villamena 7, Matsutaro 5, Lavarias 2.

Shirley's 51 — Nicdao 15, Jugos 11, Pamintuan 7, Pollisco 6, Drilon 6, Catungal 4, Palma 2.

Scoring by halves: 42-22, 77-51.

CNMI

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Ji, team supervisor Yu Hung Lee, and physiotherapist Pam Carhill.

The CNMI players started training for the AFC event early this year, three or four times a week, while in the last two weeks, despite the uncooperative weather, they held practice sessions on weekdays. Indoor training sessions were held at the TSL Sports Complex.

The Commonwealth delegation are expected to arrive in Weifang later tonight and they will have only one day to prepare for their opening game against Malaysia at 8pm (6pm Saipan time).

Taketomo admitted they don't know much about Malaysia and the majority of the teams they will be facing in China, so they will be relying on the players' good physical conditioning to keep up with their foes, and put into play what they have been practicing for months.

"We have little knowledge about how Malaysia, India, and the Philippines play. We played before against South Korea, but in the lower age group (U14). However, what we know is they are strong teams so our players have to play their best so we can produce the best possible results in every game," Taketomo said.

"The key here is to apply what we have been practicing in the actual games. I know they are excited to play and will give it their best shot," the head coach added.

After its opening game against Malaysia, the CNMI crew will take a rest on Monday before returning to the pitch on Tuesday to challenge the Philippines, also at 8pm or after the 3pm tiff between Malaysia and South Korea. The Commonwealth bets will then face the South Koreans on Sept. 1 in the first game at 3pm. For their last assignment in the round-robin pool play, the CNMI youth players will square off against the India strikers on Sept. 3 at 3pm.

Only the top finisher in the pool (Group B) will qualify to next year's finale and join finalists North Korea, Japan, China, and Thailand. Three other groups will have their respective qualifiers with Group A (Myanmar, Jordan, Thailand, Laos, and Guam) tournaments to be held in Chonburi, Thailand; Group C (Chinese-Taipei, Kyrgyzstan, UAE, Singapore, Iran, and Bangladesh) in Dhaka, Bangladesh; and Group D (Hong Kong, Australia, Palestine, Iraq, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam) in Hanoi, Vietnam.

FOOTBALL

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from 10:40am to 11:50am.

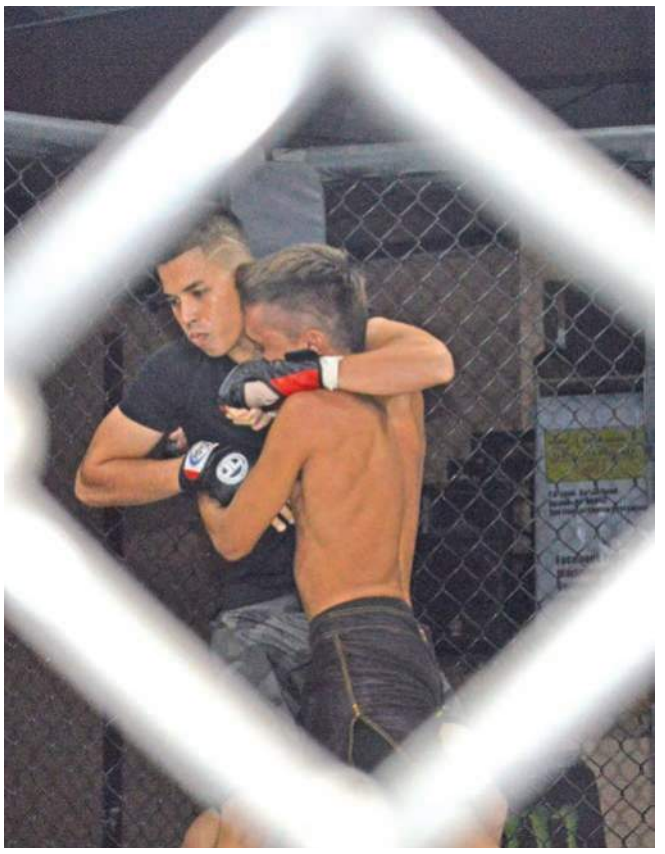
Interested coaches are requested to register with NMIFA via phone call of email on or before Aug. 31.

"Coach Seki is very eager to share this coaching information with as many coaches as possible. Please do not miss this opportunity to better your coaching techniques," NMIFA said in a press release sent to *Saipan Tribune*.

The workshop is very timely as the 2016 NMIFA Fall Youth League is scheduled to open on Sept. 10 at the various school pitches on Saipan. ***(RBM)***

Rites of Passage 19: Conquer

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

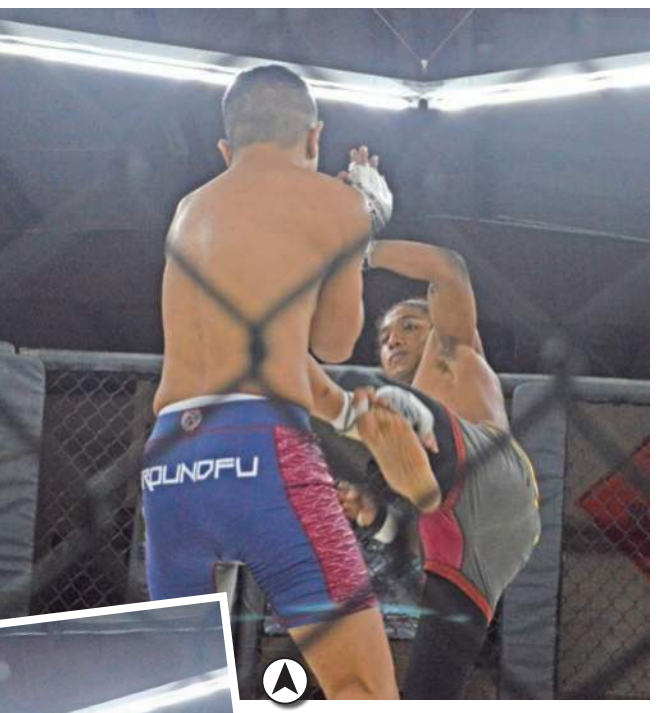


Blaise Delos Santos of MCAMMA, left, holds Team Zalaka's Willdon "The Beast" Camacho during their bout in the Rites of Passage 19: Conquer last Friday at The Warehouse.

Team Chaos' Ray "Major," left, hangs on to Trench Tech's Ko "Pak Pak" Palacios during the first round of their fight.

Team Liquid Soul/Rage's Vince Torres, right, hits Spike 22 Guam's Joey Crisostomo on the head.

Rota's Juan "Hot Pocket" Lizama gestures to his supporters after beating Red Ants Academy's Jones Langu.



Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark: Nuique," right, unloads a kick on Ground Fu Guam's Don Rasa.

Team Strike Force Saipan's Ken Santos, left, and Purebred Guam's James Rego wait for each other's moves.

Purebred Guam's James Rego, left, uses a triangle choke to neutralize Team Strike Force Saipan's Ken Santos.

Spike 22 Guam's Joey Crisostomo tries to capitalize on his advantage in position during the second round of his bout against Team Liquid Soul/Rage's Vince Torres.

Solo suspended from US soccer team for 6 months

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Pujols hits milestone HR, Angels beat Jays

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CNMI U16 team up for tough grind

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI U16 Girls National Team is in a tip-top shape as it leaves for China early this morning to compete in the AFC U16 Women's Championships 2017 Qualifier.

"In the last two weeks, the girls went through tough physical training. They are in very good shape, their physical conditioning is on a high level," said head coach Taketomo Suzuki last Monday during a send-off ceremony for the team at Kanoa Resort.

Taketomo, who will be assisted by Patricia Coleman, is bringing in a 20-player team to the qualifier, which will be held at the Luneng Football School in Weifang from Aug. 28 to Sept. 5. The CNMI roster is made up of goalies Toremy Diaz and Irish Viray, defenders Princess Alcantara, Anela Duenas, Ericka Santiago, Samantha Manacop, Patricia Surima, Grace Choi, and Franchesca Bucalig, midfielders Jerlyn Castillo, Leisha Sally, Valeria Myers, Esther Jones, Gillian Villagomez, and Jasmine Phan, forwards Katherine Magat, Jobelle Tabuena, and Ruschelle Valino and team captains Lyka Sally and Guinevere Borja. Joining the CNMI players in the Asian Football Confederation-sanctioned tournaments are delegation head Luam Khen Koo, team manage Gigi Zapanta, equipment manager Longwen

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CNMI U16 Girls National Team coach Taketomo Suzuki gives pointers to his players before resuming their training session at the TSL Sports Complex early this month.

Free football coaching workshop set for Sept. 3

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will be hosting a coaching workshop on Sept. 3 at the cafeteria of the Koblerville Elementary School.

The workshop is divided into two parts with no less than NMIFA technical director and CNMI National Men's Team coach Kiyoshi Sekiguchi leading the first or the indoor session of the seminar. He will be assisted by NMIFA youth coach Jershwin Angeles and the mentors will discuss the games of the CNMI men's and women's national teams in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2017 Round 1 in Guam last June to give pointers to the participants of the workshop.

The event is open to coaches in all levels with the indoor session to run from 9am to 10:30am. The workshop is free.

For the second part of the seminar, participants will be led to the Koblerville pitch to meet goalkeeper Christopher Aninzo. The CNMI National Team and MP United goalie will share goalkeeping coaching techniques and strategies to the participants

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AFC PHOTO
NMIFA technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, seen here speaking in a press conference during an earlier AFC event, will lead a coaching workshop set for Sept. 3 at the Koblerville Elementary School.

Kanoa, Fiesta boost finals bid

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Resort and Fiesta Resort & Spa eased their way through the first round of the playoffs to move closer to a finals stint in the 2016 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League.

Kanoa pounded JP Mambas, 86-59, in the curtain-raiser last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium to set up a battle for the first finals ticket against Fiesta, which also earned an easy victory over Shirley's Coffee Shop in the second game, 77-51.

The defending champion Fiesta and the undefeated Kanoa will square off for the first finals berth and the twice-to-beat advantage (in the championship round) that goes with it tonight at 6:30pm, while JP Mambas and Shirley's will collide in a win-or-go-home tiff at 7:30pm.

Kanoa, which had a 10-game sweep in the double-round robin, extended its winning streak to 11 and moved one victory away from advancing to the finals despite playing without the injured Matt Duenas. The solid games of Douglas Schmidt and Matt's cousin, Ernest, were enough to power Kanoa to another lopsided victory this season. Schmidt had a game-high 32 points, while Duenas chipped in 21 as they combined for more than half

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kanoa Resort's Douglas Schmidt is hounded by JP Mambas defenders during the first half of their playoff game in the Tan Holdings caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.